



2020-2021 Budget Vote June 9, 2020

Dear Community Members,

We hope that you all are well during the COVID-19 pandemic, a public health emergency unlike any endured for a hundred years. Public education was very different in Skaneateles a century ago, and due to the pandemic, school will be very different next year. Yet the passion of Skaneateles for students does not waver.

Although school buildings closed in mid-March, learning continues. Via remote instruction by our dedicated faculty, students continue to tackle their subjects. District parents graciously assume new roles supporting their children, with kitchens now acting as classrooms. Team-focused principals and coordinators work daily to bolster remote instruction and improvements. Essential staff maintain school buildings and grounds. The school now runs a meal program open to the entire community. We all know we can't truly be Lakers with the school empty. But if anyone ever did, none of us ever will take even the tiniest aspect of school life for granted again.

School construction on Project 2021 began before the pandemic, and work continues. Improvements will benefit our children long after COVID-19. Even so, due to high unemployment, lost tax revenue, and new costs, the next several years will be exceptionally challenging. Discussions are underway with all school parties. Since introduction of the tax levy cap a decade ago, the district has never exceeded the cap, with this year no exception. We request your approval of a \$34M budget at our tax cap of 2.14%. The budget is reduced by more than \$1M from last year. Even so, further cutbacks unfortunately are anticipated. Although we are less dependent on state aid than some schools and have limited funds in reserve, we are still highly susceptible to any and all reductions in revenue.

With public education now decentralized to far-reaching corners of the Skaneateles school district, new questions emerge every day. We don't have all the answers, nor will our next District Superintendent, Eric Knuth, who will start on July 1. The school will pledge to continue to spend carefully, embrace new ideas openly, use reserves smartly, target cutbacks sparingly and strategically, and ultimately emerge stronger wherever possible. We can only look to the futures of our newest Laker 2020 graduates. Although they enter an uncertain world, their energy and pioneering spirit will not fail them, nor will their legacy at Skaneateles.

With highest regards for your consideration,
Dr. Jeffrey Bryant, Interim Superintendent of Schools
Thomas E. Lambdin, President, Board of Education

BUDGET VOTE & BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION

June 9, 2020

District Office
45 East Elizabeth Street
Skaneateles, NY 13152

Inside this Issue

Budget Summary	2
Estimated Revenues	3
Measures of Success	4
Focus of Investments	5
Ballot Propositions	6
Transportation	6
BOE Candidates	7
Budget Notice	8

Budget Facts

Proposed Budget
\$34,037,540

Spending Decrease
(\$1,250,926) or (-3.55%)

Estimated Tax Levy Increase
\$26,126,489 or (2.14%)

Important Notice

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 202.26 issued on Friday, May 1, 2020 by Governor Andrew Cuomo, all voting for the June 9, 2020 election will be done by absentee ballot such that the school district must send absentee ballots with a postage paid return envelope to each "qualified voter." A qualified voter is someone who is a US citizen, 18 years of age, a resident of the District for at least 30 days prior to the vote, and not disqualified by any reason set forth in NYS Election Law §5-106. For more information, please see page six.

2020-2021 Proposed Budget Summary

Program

Budget Category	2019-2020	2020-2021	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Legal	64,916	67,209	2,293	3.53%
Occupational Education (9-12)	350,032	378,470	28,439	8.12%
Programs for Students with Disabilities	3,133,580	2,879,218	(254,362)	-8.12%
Teaching - Regular School	9,258,129	9,608,370	350,241	3.78%
Teaching - Special School	5,967	53,625	47,658	798.69%
Computer Assisted Instruction	905,770	949,103	43,332	4.78%
School Library - Audio Visual	441,952	438,045	(3,907)	-0.88%
Attendance - Regular School	2,000	2,000	-	0.00%
Co-Curricular Activities	90,604	95,135	4,531	5.00%
Guidance	447,223	433,484	(13,738)	-3.07%
Health Services	238,602	240,782	2,180	0.91%
Interschool Athletics	790,640	837,273	46,634	5.90%
Psychological Services	270,401	284,175	13,774	5.09%
Pupil Personnel Services	4,349	4,305	(44)	-1.01%
Social Work	135,577	141,262	5,685	4.19%
District Transportation	275,000	261,800	(13,200)	-4.80%
District Transportation - Contractual	1,150,165	1,158,689	8,524	0.74%
Transportation Garage	35,750	42,500	6,750	18.88%
Transfer to Non-Capital Funds	130,000	130,000	-	0.00%
Employee Benefits	4,988,804	5,097,080	108,275	2.17%
Program Budget Total	22,719,460	23,102,525	383,065	1.69%

Administrative

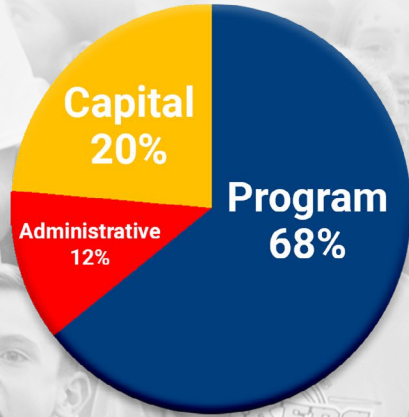
Board of Education	33,190	31,528	(1,662)	-5.01%
District Office	841,522	847,366	5,844	0.69%
Tax Collector	30,400	30,836	436	1.43%
Public Information and Services	68,294	70,362	2,068	3.03%
Personnel & Records Management Officer	80,794	55,199	(25,595)	-31.68%
Central Data Processing	395,139	321,807	(73,332)	-18.56%
Central Printing & Mailing	130,290	131,496	1,206	0.93%
BOCES Administrative	270,328	306,383	36,055	13.34%
Research & Development and Inservice Training	261,767	224,905	(36,862)	-14.08%
Supervision	922,387	900,733	(21,654)	-2.35%
Curriculum Development	355,732	341,829	(13,903)	-3.91%
Employee Benefits	821,017	838,760	17,743	2.16%
Total Administrative Budget	4,210,859	4,101,203	(109,656)	-2.60%

Capital

Maintenance of Plant	693,718	632,663	(61,055)	8.80%
Operations of Plant	1,707,701	1,707,826	125	0.01%
Security of Plant	-	70,000	70,000	NEW CODE
Insurance & School Association Dues	146,000	157,900	11,900	8.15%
Special Items	10,000	10,000	-	0.00%
Debt Service	5,195,486	3,639,263	(1,556,223)	-29.95%
Transfer to Capital Funds	100,000	100,000	-	0.00%
Employee Benefits	505,205	516,160	10,955	2.17%
Total Capital Budget	8,358,110	6,833,812	(1,524,298)	-18.24%

For a more information on the three part budget, [CLICK HERE](#).

Three-Part Budget



ADMINISTRATIVE
12%

Salaries and benefits, as well as other operational costs of the District Office, each school's main office and the Board of Education

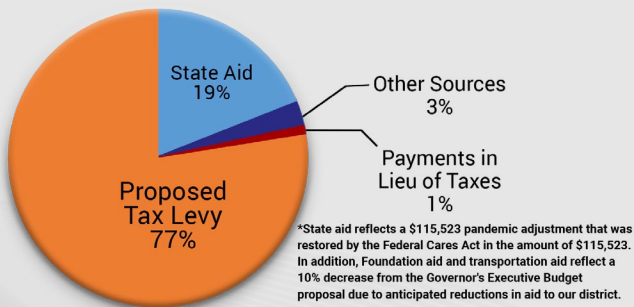
PROGRAM
68%

Instructional program costs such as salaries and benefits, transportation, BOCES services and athletics

CAPITAL
20%

Operation and Maintenance of buildings, debt service and associated employee salaries and benefits.

2020-2021 Estimated Revenues



The Skaneateles Central School District receives revenue to support its programming from multiple sources, as seen in this chart, with the proposed tax levy and New York State aid being the principal sources. State funding accounts for 19 percent of the district's projected revenue. The proposed tax levy of \$26,126,489, a 2.14% increase over the 2019-2020 tax levy (out of a possible 2.14%), makes up the remaining 77 percent of revenue.

Category	2019-2020	2020-2021	% Change	\$ Change
Proposed Tax Levy	25,578,126	26,126,489	2.14%	548,363
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	204,571	209,096	2.21%	4,525
State Aid*	8,585,684	6,556,590	-23.63%	(2,029,094)
County Sales Tax	30,000	15,000	-50.00%	(15,000)
Interest/Penalties	108,000	55,000	-49.07%	(53,000)
Services/Charges	145,000	145,000	0.00%	0
Sale of Equipment/Other	54,500	61,500	12.84%	7,000
Refund of Prior Year Expenses	125,000	125,000	0.00%	0
Federal Aid - Medicaid	30,000	30,000	0.00%	0
Other Sources	102,585	100,446	-2.09%	(2,139)
Interfund Transfers	100,000	100,000	0.00%	0
Total Revenues	35,063,466	33,524,121	-4.39%	(1,539,345)
Fund Balance	150,000	510,644	240.43%	360,644
Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve	75,000	2,775	0	(72,225)
Total Budget	35,288,466	34,037,540	-3.54%	(1,250,926)

*State aid reflects a \$115,523 pandemic adjustment that was restored by the Federal Cares Act in the amount of \$115,523. In addition, foundation aid and transportation aid reflect a 10% decrease from the Governor's Executive Budget proposal due to anticipated reductions in aid to our district.

Disclaimer:

Current school tax bill on a home assessed at \$350,000, with Basic STAR. Rates were determined using the tentative assessed values. These are both subject to change as the information was gathered from tentative rolls and are not finalized until July. Equalization rates are finalized in July and early August. This is for illustrative purposes only and individual increases or decreases for each homeowner may vary based on assessment and equalization rate changes.

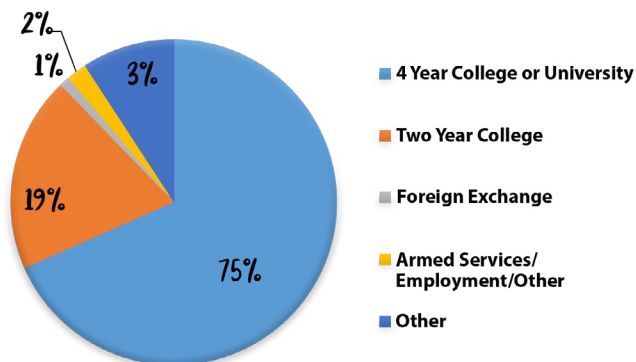
Town	Estimated Tax Rate*	School Taxes on Home**
Skaneateles	\$14.223749	\$3,854.64 (+58.43)
Spafford	\$14.737866	\$3,881.22 (68.23)
Marcellus	\$13.442154	\$3,890.16 (+6.92)
Sennett	\$13.282160	\$3,910.27 (+84.98)
Owasco	\$16.732232	\$3,881.04 (29.60)
Niles	\$12.232360	\$3,875.58 (163.16)

*Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value

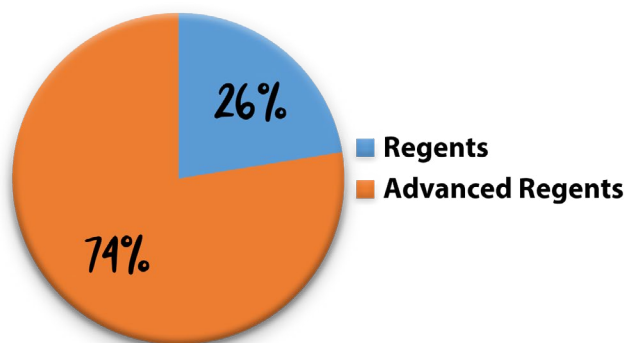
**On Home Assessed at \$350,000

Our Measures of Success

Graduation Destinations for the Class of 2019



Diplomas Earned by the Class of 2019



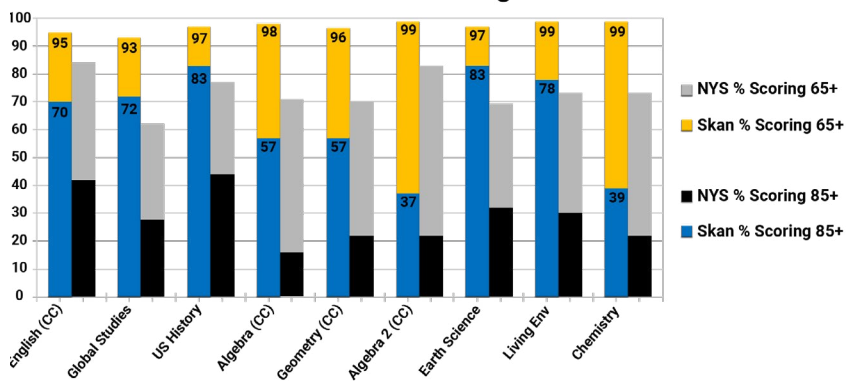
2019 SAT Scores	Critical Reading	Math	Total
National Average	531	528	1059
State Average	531	533	1064
SKANEATELES Central School District	582	580	1162

Seventy-two percent of our students took the SAT, with reading and math tests scoring in the ranges of 300-800. The ACT has four test areas of Math, English, reading and Science, and an average composite score of 25. Sixty-four percent of our students took that ACT.

2019 ACT Scores	Composite Score
National Average	20.7
SKANEATELES Central School District	25.0

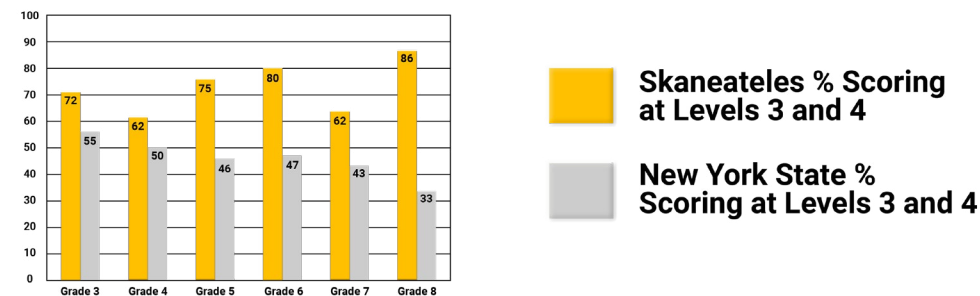


2018-2019 Skaneateles CSD Regents Exam Results

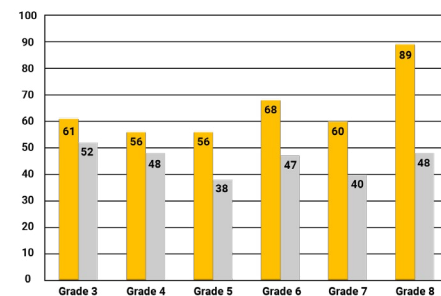


Regents Exams provide a basis for evaluating the quality of instruction and learning that has taken place. Students must pass five Regents Exams in order to graduate and eight to receive the Advanced Regents diploma.

2018-2019 NYS 3-8 Math Test Results



2018-2019 NYS 3-8 ELA Test Results



Scores on the ELA and Math assessments place students at one of four levels. Those at Level 4 excel in standards for their grade; those at Level 3 are proficient in standards; those at Level 2 are partially proficient and those at Level 1 are well below proficient in standards for their grade. The increased rigor of Common Core-aligned tests is apparent statewide as seen in the 3-8 graphs as well as in the Algebra 1 (CC) bar in the Regents Exam Results bar graph above.

The Focus of Our Investments

1,294

Number of K-12 Students

97%

Graduation Rate

51

Seniors Graduating with Honors

10

Teams in Odyssey of the Mind

52

Interscholastic Teams

\$34,037,540

Proposed 2020-2021 Budget

37

High School Clubs

21

Musical Groups

1

Community

On pages two and three, you were able to see the breakdown of the projected costs (expenditures), our income (revenue), and what we will need to support the difference (fund balance and reserves) for the proposed budget of \$34,037,540 with a total tax levy of \$26,126,489 for 2020-2021. An increase of \$548,363 or 2.14% in the tax levy is needed for 2020-2021.

So what is the community getting in return for the requested investments? We hope many features in this report answer that question. Here are some other examples of enhancements and improvements:



High School

- 12 Advanced Placement Courses
- Offer Wide Range of Curricula Through More Than 130 Courses
- National Blue Ribbon School
- US News Gold Status High School
- NYS Recognition High School
- Online Course Offerings
- Expanded Social Studies Electives

Middle School

- NewsELA online resource providing access to thousands of real-world texts, built-in activities and the ability to differentiate by student Lexile level.
- Continued phase-in of Amplify Science curriculum materials which include digital tools and simulations engaging students to think, read and write like real scientists and engineers.
- 8th graders earn high school credit for World Language.
- Additional Clubs and Activities, Fall and Spring Student Events Promoting Wellness.
- Certified Therapy Dog Coco and another pup, Fenway, in training.

Elementary (Waterman and State Street)

- Continued training and implementation of Responsive Classroom and the Positivity Project which supports the Six Dimensions of Wellness.
- Teacher training in current best practices for literacy instruction.
- Continue implementing the Smithsonian Science materials which are in alignment with Next Generation Science Standards.



What Will You See When You Vote?

Qualifications of Voters:

- At least 18 years of age.
- Citizen of the United States.
- A resident of the Skaneateles Central School District for at least 30 days prior to the date of the vote.

Absentee Ballot:

Qualified voters on the most recent year's poll lists will be automatically sent an absentee ballot. Anyone who meets the definition of a "qualified voter," but does not believe he/she will be on the School District's poll list, please contact the District Clerk, Karen Dunphy, by e-mail at kdunphy@skanschools.org.

Proposition I

General Fund Budget

Shall the Board of Education of the Skaneateles Central School District, New York be authorized to expend the sum of \$34,037,540 for the 2020-2021 school year and levy the necessary taxes when due?

Proposition II

Bus Proposition

Shall the Board of Education of the Skaneateles Central School District, Onondaga County, New York, be authorized to purchase and finance four student transport vehicles, including necessary furnishings, fixtures and equipment and all other costs incidental thereto, and expend a total sum not to exceed \$445,000, which is estimated to be the total maximum cost thereof, and said amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law; and, in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District, in the principal amount not to exceed \$445,000, be issued?

Proposition III

Capital Reserve Fund General Construction

Shall the Board of Education of the Skaneateles Central School District approve a proposition to be determined by the District's voters to establish a new ten-year capital reserve pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law in an amount not to exceed \$2,500,000 to be used for renovations and additions to all District facilities, including purchase of equipment and school buses, security and safety improvements, technology upgrades, classroom equipment and/or school infrastructure equipment, site development, storm and sanitary sewer, driveways, and parking lots, such reserve fund to be funded from (i) year-end budget surplus funds known as unassigned fund balance, as available, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020 and each fiscal year thereafter for the term of the reserve fund, (ii) future transfers of excess monies from Board of Education designated reserves, (iii) amounts of budgetary appropriations from time to time, and (iv) New York State Aid received and made available by the Board of Education from time to time, all as permitted by law, be issued?

**This proposition is only to set up the reserve for future funding. The District does not intend to fund this reserve for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020. This reserve can be kept for ten years and will be available for long term planning of future capital projects.*

Getting to School Safely, Effectively & Efficiently

The continuation of our Bus Replacement Plan will be on the 2020-2021 school budget ballot (See Proposition 2). Cost savings measures like the Bus Replacement Plan help to accomplish our ultimate goal of providing the best educational programs for students, while being fair to taxpayers.

Now in year five, this plan involves the ongoing replacement of an aging fleet and will result in improved safety for students, improved approval ratings for bus inspections, and ultimately, fewer buses in total.

Board of Education: Candidates for Election (Vote For Two)

On June 9, residents will elect two members of the Board of Education to each serve a three-year term. Below are candidates that filed nominating petitions for the available seats:



Michelle Ederer

Michelle is the President of the Skaneateles Elementary Teacher Committee and has served on the board for the past four years in various roles. Michelle and her husband, Jon, have two children enrolled at State Street Intermediate School. Michelle recently earned her Doctor of Medical Science degree from the University of Lynchburg and practices as a Physician Assistant at WellNOW Urgent Care in Fairmount, New York. If elected, she will utilize her healthcare, grant-writing, and teaching experience to focus on instructional technology, curriculum development, improving the health, safety, and wellness of students for the district.



Daniel Evans

Dan has demonstrated extensive volunteerism in the community as a current Skaneateles BOE member, past Chief of the Skaneateles Fire Department, and coach for youth sports. Dan and his wife, Liz, have 2 children, ages 11 and 15, within the District. Dan has 23 years of professional experience in the positions of school administrator and teacher. Currently, he is a Vice Principal for the Syracuse City School District. Dan holds a MS of Education and Certificate of Advanced Study in School Administration from SUNY Cortland. Dan believes strong educational programming, supporting school personal, school safety and fiscal responsibility are key priorities to a successful district.



Gary Gerst

Gary was born and raised in Skaneateles and has deep ties within the community. A graduate from SCS in the class of 1990, he and his wife, Lynda, now have three children, a junior, a freshman, and a 6th grader, enrolled in the District. After earning his Certificate of Advanced Study, Gary was an Elementary Curriculum Coordinator, the Principal at Waterman, the Principal at the Middle School, and the Director of Learning at SCS. Gary is currently the principal at Minoa Elementary in the East Syracuse Minoa School District at the K-5 level. Gary was also a founding member of the Skaneateles Education Foundation and coached soccer and lacrosse in the District for many years.



Valerie Jeraback

As a past member of the School Board, Valerie has over three decades of experience both in the school district and the community. Valerie and her husband, Bob, have two children who both attended K-12 in Skaneateles, and a grandchild who will soon be a Laker. Valerie has a B.S. in electrical and computer engineering from Clarkson University as well as being the first woman to attend and complete Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory Nuclear Power Engineering School. Valerie has volunteered in many capacities over the years and would like to remain involved in support of the high level of education in Skaneateles.



Ezra Wegbreit

Ezra Wegbreit moved to Skaneateles in 2015 in large part for the community and the school district. Prior to moving here, Ezra earned a PhD and completed three postdoctoral research fellowships. He now continues his love for education through teaching as a psychology professor at Cazenovia College. As an educator, a parent of three children in the district, and a community member, Ezra cares deeply for the continued growth and success all of Skaneateles' students, teachers, and staff. As a School Board member, Ezra would focus on ways to improve educational opportunities, combat declining enrollment, and maintain fiscal responsibility.

Thank You to Our Partners: In Skaneateles, our schools are strengthened by the ongoing support an innovation of our extremely dedicated partners. We are grateful for their amazing commitment to our students!

- Our Alumni
- Skaneateles Music Guild
- Skaneateles Chamber of Commerce
- Booster Clubs
- Parent Advisory Committees
- Skaneateles Education Foundation
- Ecumenical Council
- Parent Teacher Committees
- Town & Village of Skaneateles

Local Post Patron

School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2019-20 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2020-21 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2020-21 School Year *										
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 35,288,466	\$ 34,037,540	\$33,489,177										
Increase/Decrease for the 2020-21 School Year		\$ - 1,250,926	\$-1,799,289										
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		-3.55 %	-5.10%										
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.81%											
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	25,578,126	26,126,489											
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable													
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **													
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy													
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$25,578,126	\$26,126,489	\$25,578,126										
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$2,200,180	\$2,236,703											
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$23,513,423	\$23,889,786											
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$23,377,946	\$23,889,786											
I. Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$ 135,477	\$ 0											
Administrative Component	\$4,210,859	\$4,101,203	\$4,046,773										
Program Component	\$22,719,460	\$23,102,525	\$22,788,592										
Capital Component	\$8,358,147	\$6,833,812	\$6,653,812										
<p>* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2020-21 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.</p> <p>The 2020-21 tax levy would equal the 2019-2020 tax levy. The Administrative Component of the 2020-21 budget would be capped at 12.08% of the overall contingency budget, a reduction of \$54,430. The Program and Capital components of the 2020-21 contingency budget would need to be reduced by \$493,933 which would include cutting all equipment, the transfer from capital fund and potentially athletic expenditures. In the event of a contingent budget, the actual allocation of the components may differ from the budget displayed above.</p>													
<p>** List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Description</th> <th>Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>BUS PROPOSITION</td> <td>\$445,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Description	Amount	BUS PROPOSITION	\$445,000						
Description	Amount												
BUS PROPOSITION	\$445,000												

NOTE: Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to: emscmgts@nysed.gov

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2020-21 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings¹

\$ 420.00

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2020-21 by the qualified voters of the Skaneateles Central School District, New York, will be held remotely pursuant to Executive Order 202.26 on June 9, 2020 by the counting of absentee ballots issued to qualified voters of the District. Ballots must be received in the office of the District Clerk no later than 5:00 pm on June 9, 2020 to be counted.

1. The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.