

The
News
from

Monticello

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Budget Vote

Tuesday
May 18

Polls are open from
8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Voting Places

Forestburgh

School Election District #5
Forestburgh Town Hall

Thompson

(Rock Hill area)
School Election District #4
Rock Hill Fire Department

Mamakating

School Election District #3
Chase Elementary School

Bethel

School Election District #2
Duggan Elementary School

Thompson

(Remainder of the district)
School Election District #1
RJK Middle School

Voter Information

For questions about
the voting process, call
District Clerk
Mary Ryan Buchholz at
794-7700, ext. 70501.

Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots must
reach the district clerk's
office no later than
5 p.m. on May 18.

Balancing the needs of the community

Monticello Central School District residents will go the polls on May 18 to vote on a proposed \$75,985,992 budget for the 2010-2011 school year. The plan represents a decrease of -0.9 percent from this year's operating budget. The proposed spending plan includes a projected tax levy increase of 6 percent.

Due to the large reduction in state aid funding, Monticello's proposed budget includes the closure of the Duggan Elementary School in White Lake, the layoff of 61 full-time positions, including three administrators, 46 teachers and 12 support staff, and program cuts to College in the Classroom, International Baccalaureate and student support services.

If the budget is not approved by voters, the Board of Education has the option to put the same budget up for another vote, put a revised budget up for vote or adopt the contingency budget. For Monticello, the difference in this year's proposed tax



levy increase between the proposed budget and the contingency budget is about 1 percent. By law, when a district is under a contingency budget it is subject to various limits and controls on how money is spent. In addition, the community may be required to pay fees for the use of school facilities. The Duggan School will close whether the budget passes or not. ■

Keeping student success our highest priority

The following letter is from Monticello's Superintendent of Schools to community members.

In 24 years as an educator, I have never been involved in a more difficult process than creating the budget for the 2010-2011 school year. Many of us experienced the economic hardships of the 1980s and 1990s when cuts to jobs in education and student programs were abundant. Even in those tough times, we were told that the reductions were only temporary and that much of what was taken away would be restored in the future. This time, New York State is not giving us that same level of reassurance. The state is

faced with unprecedented shortfalls in its budget. When this happens, counties, towns, villages and school districts also experience shortfalls. In our case, the state has cut millions of dollars in aid. This has significantly impacted our decision-making process this year and for years to come.

The members of our Board of Education should be complimented for their hard work and dedication. Some very difficult decisions had to be made in order to

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On the May 18 ballot: Monticello Board of Education candidates

Three of the nine seats on Monticello Schools' Board of Education are up for election. The names of the last incumbents are Richard Feller, Yvonne Housman and Barbara O'Rourke. All seats are for a three year term. The following are the eleven candidates running for those seats and who will appear on the ballot.

The following candidates will appear on the May 18 ballot and are running for the Board of Education seat held by incumbent Yvonne Housman (three year term)



Yvonne Housman, current BOE member, resident of Rock Hill

Yvonne has been a Monticello Schools Board member for three years. She is also active with the Monticello School Community Advocates and does work with Action Toward Independence, a group which provides support for children on the autism spectrum. She has a BS in Childhood Education from SUNY New Paltz, an AS in Business Administration from SCCC and currently works as a substitute teacher for Fallsburg Schools. Yvonne has been married to her husband, Jim, for 14 years and has two children. She's involved in charity work for organizations that help special needs children. She enjoys reading and traveling.



Philip Borko, resident of Rock Hill

Philip is a graduate of Fallsburg High School and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from the State University at Albany. Presently, he works for a large local not-for-profit organization in the areas of budget and finance. He has been on the board of directors of the YMCA/Nana's House Child Care Center for about six years and is currently serving as the board president. He and his wife, Colleen, are members of the Cooke/Rutherford Elementary School PTA. He volunteers as a little league umpire, as well as a high school and youth football official. Philip is married and has two children, Jenna and Nathan.



Lillian Lubiano Armstead, resident of Monticello

Lillian graduated from Burrell High School and received a Certificate in Accounting at the New Kensington Commercial School. Her studies also include micro computer concepts and accounting at Westmoreland Community College. Presently, she is a community advocate and a member of the Community Progressive Response (CPR) group. She is actively involved in helping parents and various school districts work together for the academic betterment of students in grades kindergarten through 12. Lillian is married to her husband, Bishop Mervin Armstead, Sr., and has three children, Jodi, Jamie and Lisa.

The following candidates will appear on the May 18 ballot and are running for the Board of Education seat held by incumbent Barbara O'Rourke (three year term)



Barbara O'Rourke, current BOE member, resident of Forestburgh

Barbara has been a Monticello Schools Board member for two years. She is the current president of SEPTSA (Special Education Parent Teacher Student Association). She is a Parent Advocate on the committees for Preschool and School-Age Special Education. She's a member of the Audit and the Special Education Committees, Sullivan ARC and the NY State School Boards Association. She is a past volunteer with the Cooke/Rutherford PTA, the Sullivan County Autism Support Group and AYSO Youth Soccer. Barbara is an alumna of Monticello HS and has a BA in English & Writing from SUNY Oswego. She is married to her husband, William, and has three children.



Vincent Gilmore, resident of Monticello

Vincent attended Walterboro High School in South Carolina and Sullivan County Community College - where he received an AS in Recreation Leadership. Presently, he serves as the chairman of the Village of Monticello's Renewable Energy and Commerce Committee. He is a member of the Human Rights Commission, Town of Thompson Conservation Advisory Council, NAACP of Sullivan County and the Monticello Schools Citizens' Advisory Budget Committee (CABC). Vincent is the past vice president of the Sullivan County Million Man March Community Action Group. He is married to his wife, Bernadette, and has three children, Valerie, Thomas and Brandi.



Sean Rieber, resident of Rock Hill

Sean is a graduate of Monticello High School and is a lifelong resident of Sullivan County. He attended Sullivan County Community College and did his advanced studies at the State University at Albany. Presently, he is a member of the Village of Monticello Business Association and serves as an alternate on the Town of Thompson Zoning Board of Appeals. He is a past chief of the Rock Hill Fire Department and is a current active member. Sean has served as a former Sullivan County Legislator. He is married to his wife, Nicole, and has a two year-old son, Jacob.



Jody Shames Tedaldi, resident of Rock Hill

Jody is a graduate of Monticello High School Class of 1976. Currently, she serves as the secretary of the Sullivan County Multiple Listing Service and is a member of the Sullivan County Board of Realtors. She is active in community work and has attended many Monticello Schools Board of Education meetings and Sullivan County Legislative meetings during the past few years. She volunteers with the Holiday Mountain Ski Club. Presently, Jody works as a real estate broker in Sullivan County. She is married to her husband, Robert Tedaldi, and has three children, Michael, Kallie and Brian.



Stacey Sharoff, resident of Monticello

Stacey graduated from Monticello High School and received her Bachelor of Science degree in Dance from SUNY Brockport and Master of Science degree in Education from SUNY New Paltz. She is a parent volunteer for the Cooke Elementary School field day, RJK Middle School musical and Monticello High School debate team. She is on the board of trustees for Temple Shalom in Monticello. Stacey has done volunteer work for a variety of organizations, including the International Special Olympics, Very Special Arts Festival and Kids Act. She is married to her husband, Jerald Burton, and has two children, Olivia and Nicholas.

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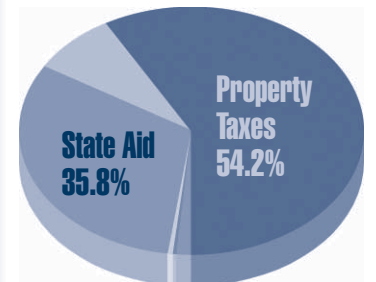
For complete information about the 2010-2011 proposed budget, more about the Board of Education candidates and to read about what's happening in our schools, visit the district web site at www.monticelloschools.net.

The BUDGET at a glance

Revenues: Where the money comes from

	Adopted 2009-10	Proposed 2010-11
Charges for Services	\$195,000	\$217,500
Other	1,434,000	1,629,522
Interest Income	300,000	265,000
Medicaid	250,000	250,000
State Aid	29,901,197	27,165,297
Fund Balance	5,757,225	5,280,000
Property Taxes	38,847,805	41,178,673
TOTALS	\$76,685,227	\$75,985,992

2010-11 Revenue Breakdown

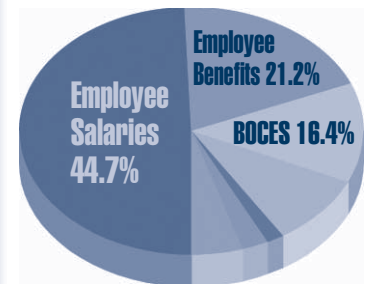


Medicaid 0.3% Fund Balance 6.9%
Interest Income 0.3% Other 2.5%

Expenses: Where the money goes

	Adopted 2009-10	Proposed 2010-11
Employee Salaries	\$36,284,761	\$33,983,457
Benefits	15,986,487	16,127,820
BOCES	11,028,784	12,418,576
Program Support	6,424,078	6,389,064
Equipment	707,584	753,834
Materials & Supplies	1,950,183	1,963,383
Debt Service	4,303,350	4,349,858
TOTALS	\$76,685,227	\$75,985,992

2010-11 Expense Breakdown



Program Support 8.4% Debt Service 5.7%
Materials & Supplies 2.6% Equipment 1.0%

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The following candidates will appear on the May 18 ballot and are running for the Board of Education seat held by incumbent **Richard Feller** (three year term)



Helen Jersey, resident of Monticello

Helen is a graduate of Liberty High School. She has an AAS degree in Accounting from Sullivan County Community College and a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Mount Saint Mary College. She is a member of the Community Progressive Response (CPR) group and of Sullivan County ARC. She serves on the Town of Thompson Democratic Committee and on the partnership committee for the YMCA/Nana's House Child Care Center in Rock Hill. She is an alumna of Leadership Sullivan. Helen is engaged to her fiancé, T.C. Huchins, and has one daughter, Morgan.



Ellen Nesin, resident of Monticello

Ellen is the widow of Eugene Nesin who served on the Monticello BOE for 33 years. A retired teacher, she holds an MS in Education from SUNY New Paltz and a BA in Education & Psychology from SUNY Stony Brook. Ellen chairs the Temple Shalom Religious School, is on the board of directors of the Weekend of Chamber Music and is the president of the Monticello Schools Performing Arts Booster Club. She is a co-founder and member of the Monticello School Community Advocates and a past member of the RJK and Cooke/Rutherford PTAs. She has five children, Beth, Debra, Sheri, Paul and Jessica. The youngest of her seven grandchildren attends KLR.



Robert L. Stewart, resident of Forestburgh

Robert and his wife Karen came to Monticello as teachers after graduating from SUNY Oswego in 1967. His graduate studies were at SUNY Plattsburgh and SUNY New Paltz. He is a past president, vice president and member of the Monticello BOE and served for a total of six years (2003-2009). He taught physics at Monticello High School for thirty years and was an adjunct professor at SUNY New Paltz and SCCC. In 1981, he won the STANYS "Outstanding Science Teacher" award. Robert has served on the Board of Fire Commissioners for the Forestburgh Fire Department since 1994. He is married and has two children, Jon and Heather.

Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Patrick Michel

Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning

Kenneth W. Newman, Sr.

Assistant Superintendent for Business & Support Services

Gladys P. Baxter

Board of Education

- Alyce Van Etten, *President*
- Richard Feller, *Vice President*
- Tara Buckstad-Russo
- Liza Glick
- Yvonne Housman
- Robert Kunis
- Barbara O'Rourke
- Jo-Ann Peabody
- Susan Purcell
- Huiwon Lee, *Student Representative*

Renata Gittler, Editor, Layout and Photography

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CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
237 Forestburgh Road, Monticello, NY 12701

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ECRWSS Postal Customer

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Letter from the Superintendent: **Maintaining our Focus**

create a reasonable budget that preserves student programs and respects the burden on our taxpaying citizens. The proposed budget shows the public we are willing to make the sacrifices necessary to get through these tough economic times while still ensuring our children the quality education they need to be successful in the global economy. We can no longer expect our children to be educated in the same manner as we were and we cannot disregard the future because of the present challenges.

The new level of academic rigor that is being demanded by the federal government and supported by the State Education Department is much higher than when we were in school. Students at the elementary level will be the first to take national exams in math and English. These exams will be based on international standards. It is our obligation

to prepare our students to be successful on these exams and to support and create programs that will enable them to compete and succeed. Our students are capable of great things. We have already seen considerable success and we need to continue to build on that success so that all our children will be ready to face the world as it is and shall be.

We are proud that the community has supported us throughout this very painful budget formation process and we will continue to work together as we move forward. As always, my door is open. Please feel free to stop by or call if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Dr. Patrick Michel



Some school business to be handled by the CBO

Beginning July 1, the responsibilities of the accounts payable and purchasing departments of Monticello Schools will be handled by shared support staff through the new Central Business Office (CBO) at Sullivan County BOCES.



Senior account clerk Abbie Bivins

In the long-run, the district will benefit from the consolidation of services with considerable savings. In addition, by using the BOCES cooperative service (coser) the district will be entitled to more than 40 percent reimbursement from the state. With the economic downturn, consolidating services is one of the many things schools are exploring as a way to cut costs. At this point, the new CBO will include five of the eight Sullivan County school districts and will be an entity unto itself – separate and apart from the SCBOCES business office. The CBO also offers accounting and payroll services for which Monticello may sign-on at a later date. The Monticello Schools administration will continue to oversee the services contracted with the CBO.

Budget Summary

New York State law requires all school districts to present their budgets divided into three expenditure categories - administrative, program and capital - and compare them to last year's amount. Monticello's three-part budget breaks down as follows:

ADMINISTRATIVE	2009-10	2010-11
Amount	8,700,328	8,576,982
% of total	11.35%	11.29%
PROGRAM	2009-10	2010-11
Amount	57,943,196	57,205,455
% of total	75.56%	75.28%
CAPITAL	2009-10	2010-11
Amount	10,041,703	10,203,555
% of total	13.09%	13.43%