



Eagle Express

The Official Newsletter of the Lake Shore Central School District

Vol. 23 #4 SPRING 2020

VOTE

Via Absentee Ballot ONLY.

Ballots to be mailed on or before May 26th.
Returned ballots must be received
by 5 pm on June 9th.

Q. Why is there no tax increase on the bus purchases?

A. When new buses are purchased, State Aid is reimbursed to the District and old buses are auctioned off. With those funds cycling in, the result is no local cost to taxpayers.

Q. What's the budget's tax rate increase?

A. It is 1.43%, which in Evans is estimated (based on last year's taxable assessed values and equalization rates) at \$26 a year on a \$100,000 home. That is before STAR savings.

Annual School Budget Referendum & Election Information

The Annual School Budget Referendum & Election will be held on **Tuesday, June 9, 2020**. Pursuant to Executive Order 202.26, qualified voters shall only be permitted to vote via absentee ballot. Absentee ballots will be mailed to all known qualified voters with a postage paid return envelope. This will be done once ballots have been printed. Absentee ballots are estimated to be mailed on or before May 26th. If you are a qualified voter and do not receive an absentee ballot, please contact District Clerk Kristine DeMartino at (716) 926-2202 or by email at kristine.demartino@lscsd.org to request one.

Completed absentee ballots must be received in the District Clerk's Office by 5 p.m. on June 9, 2020. Please be sure to mail your ballot a few days prior to June 9th to ensure receipt by the deadline of 5 p.m. Ballots also may be hand-delivered to the District Clerk's Office on June 9, 2020 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. If you would like to hand deliver your ballot, please contact District Clerk Kristine DeMartino at (716) 926-2202.

Voters please note that your absentee ballot will not be counted unless the gold colored envelope marked "Election Material Please Expedite" is completed.

Please print the information on the front of the envelope so that it is legible.

Be sure to read and sign the "Statement of Absentee Voter" on the back of the envelope and seal the envelope.

Your ballot will not be counted unless the statement of absentee voter is signed and returned by the deadline.

Qualifications of Voters

- ✓ A voter must be a citizen of the United States.
- ✓ A voter must be eighteen (18) years of age or older.
- ✓ A voter must be a legal resident within the District for a period of thirty (30) days preceding the meeting or election at which he/she offers to vote.
- ✓ A voter must not be otherwise prohibited from voting pursuant to Election Law Section 5-106.

Native Americans residing on the Seneca Nation Territory are eligible to vote in this annual vote if the majority of their children attend the Lake Shore Central Schools. The above qualifications must also be satisfied.

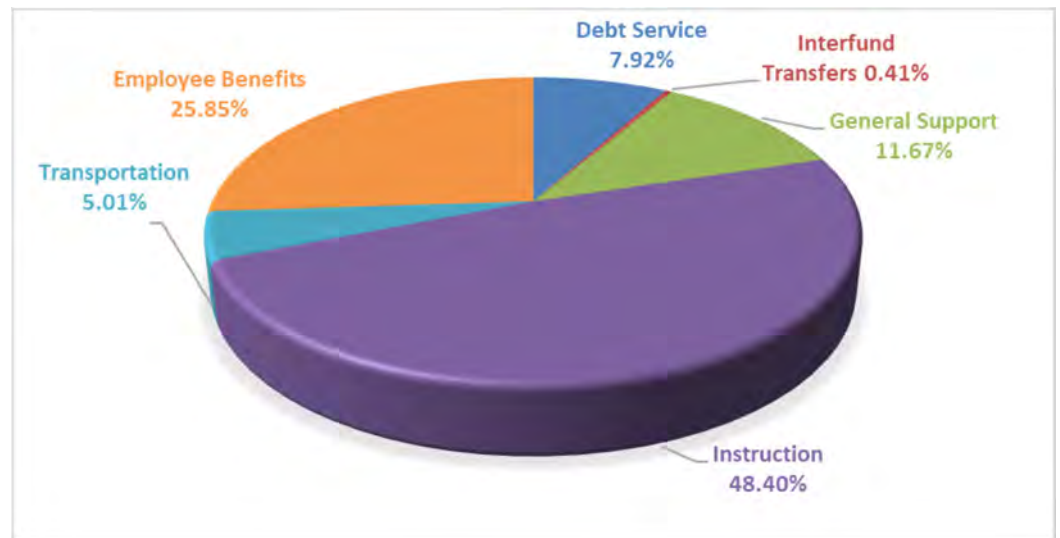
Annual School Budget Meeting (Public Hearing)

The Annual School Budget Meeting (Public Hearing) for qualified district residents will be held remotely on **Tuesday, June 2, 2020 at 7 p.m.** Members of the public may view the meeting via live stream at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP1gugc1uxhYJMOzgyPk9KA/videos>.

Individuals who wish to submit comments or questions about the budget may do so by sending an email to budget.comments@lscsd.org by no later than noon on Monday, June 1, 2020. A copy of the District's Proposed Budget Document and the required attachments are available on the District's website at www.lakeshorecsd.org.

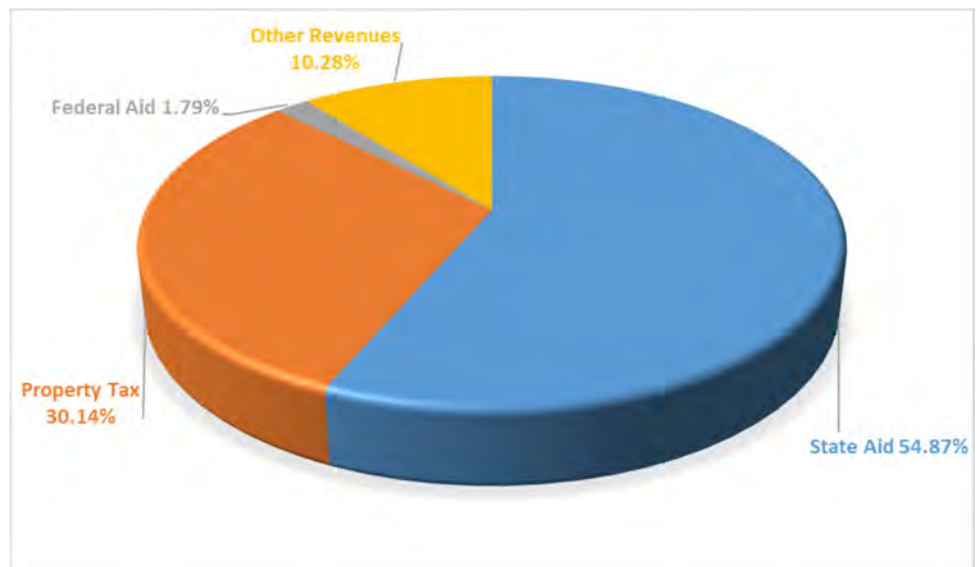
Proposed Expenditures

	Proposed Budget	Percent of Budget
General Support	\$7,006,558	11.67%
Instruction	29,519,478	49.15%
Transportation	3,008,951	5.01%
Employee Benefits	15,523,448	25.85%
Debt Service	4,753,790	7.92%
Interfund Transfers	245,000	0.41%
Total	\$60,057,225	100.00%



Anticipated Revenues

	Proposed Budget	Percent of Budget
State Aid	\$32,953,310	54.87%
Property Tax	18,102,600	30.14%
Federal Aid	1,075,000	1.79%
Other Revenues	6,176,315	10.28%
Appropriated Fund Balance	1,750,000	2.91%
Total	\$60,057,225	100.00%



Proposition No. 1

Shall the following resolution be adopted, to wit:

RESOLVED, that the **budget for the Evans-Brant (Lake Shore) Central School District for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2021**, as presented by the Board of Education in the amount of \$60,057,225 is hereby approved and adopted and the required funds therefore are hereby appropriated and the necessary real property taxes required shall be raised by a tax on the taxable property in the District to be levied and collected as required by law. Adoption of this budget requires a tax levy increase of 1.43% which does not exceed the statutory tax levy increase limit of 1.43%.

Proposition No. 2

Shall the following resolution be adopted, to wit:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Evans-Brant (Lake Shore) Central School District (“the District”) is hereby authorized to **purchase the following replacement vehicles** for use by the District in the transportation of students and general use by the District: three (3) full size diesel-powered 71-passenger school buses at an estimated maximum cost of \$126,322.95 each; one (1) 30-passenger gasoline-powered school bus at an estimated cost of \$66,484.49; and one (1) 24-passenger 5-wheel chair position gasoline-powered wheel chair school bus at an estimated cost of \$74,986.13; for a total aggregate maximum cost of \$520,439.47; with such aggregate cost to be raised by a tax upon the taxable property of the District to be levied and collected in annual installments as provided in Section 416 of the Education Law, with such tax to be partially offset by State aid available therefore, and, in anticipation of such tax, by the issuance of debt obligations of the District as may be necessary, not to exceed such maximum aggregate cost.

No tax levy increase is anticipated for Proposition 2.

Budget Facts

Q. The budget increase over the previous year is \$74,438, or just 0.12%. Why is the tax increase 1.43%?

A. Due to the financial fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic, Lake Shore will lose significant revenue (estimated at more than \$1,285,000) from sales tax and State Aid sources. That means that taxes go up to fill that revenue gap, even though the budget barely goes up.

Q. What does the 1.43% increase mean to my taxes?

A. In Evans, the tax increase is estimated (based on last year’s taxable assessed values and equalization rates) at \$26 a year on a \$100,000 home. That is before STAR savings.

Q. What measures has the district taken to reduce costs?

A. This year, the elimination or reduction of several positions, and a retirement incentive, have helped the district realize a savings of \$1,125,050

Q. What other budgetary changes have occurred?

A. The District is shifting its focus to more online, technology-based learning in case we are not open next year in the event of COVID-19 flare ups. We are preparing for what instruction may look like in September and beyond. Additionally, the District has reduced a number of BOCES services and outside purchases to close the budgetary gap between expected revenues and costs.

2020 Census Information from NYS Education Department

You can help the Lake Shore community get the funds and representation it is entitled to by law by completing the Census and accurately counting all children in your household. Please respond at my2020census.gov.

Results from the 2020 census will be used to:

- Direct billions of dollars in federal funds to local communities for schools, roads, and other public services.
- Help our community prepare to meet transportation and emergency readiness needs.
- Determine the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives and our political representation at all levels of government.

Please respond at <https://my2020census.gov/>. If you need help completing your 2020 Census questionnaire, call toll-free 1-844-330-2020.

DISTRICT OFFICE

959 Beach Road
Angola NY 14006
716-549-2300

Board of Education Election

The candidates who receive the highest number of votes at the Annual Meeting will fill the expired terms of the two incumbents and will serve on the Board of Education for three-year terms to commence on July 1, 2020 and expire June 30, 2023. The seats are currently held by Michael Franey and Carla Thompson. The biographical sketches below are submitted by the candidates. The opinions expressed are those of the candidates. Background information, as stated in the profiles, has not been verified by the school district.



Biography submitted by candidate Michael Franey:

"I graduated from the Lake Shore Central School District in 1988. I have been the proud husband of Christine for 21 years and we have been the proud parents of Lauren for 18 years, who is a 2020 Lake Shore Central Senior.

I have lived in the Town of Evans and Lake Shore Central School District for 47 years and have been employed by the Town as a Dog Control Officer and Dispatcher for 25 years. I have also been a proud member of I.B.E.W. Local #41 for 23 years and am currently the Union Steward representing members employed by the Town of Evans.

During our daughter's education at Lake Shore, my wife and I have always enjoyed the open lines of communication with the faculty. Further, we have also observed many examples of how much the faculty of the District care about the welfare and education of the students.

During my nearly 3 years on the School Board, I have been a member of several committees including budget, policy, athletics, and the academy of business and finance. I am also the District's Alternate Delegate to the ECASB Legislative Team, which involves building relationships with other School Board Members in the area and advocating for the benefit of our District with Elected Officials. If I am fortunate enough to be elected to another term, I will continue to look out for the best interests of the students, faculty, and taxpayers of the District."



Biography submitted by candidate Carla Thompson:

"As an educator for over 35 years, Mrs. Carla Thompson is well qualified to offer an educational perspective to the Board of Education.

Mrs. Thompson's educational experience includes teaching English, 8-12, working with NYS Standards, Common Core Standards, K-12 curriculum, and State assessments. Also, Mrs. Thompson is a National Board and Advanced Placement, certified teacher of English Language Arts, retired.

As a twelve-year member of the LS BOE, she has attended several workshops and conferences on School Board Governance, Fiscal Responsibility, School Law, Common Core, Module Teaching, APPR, and architectural advancements for Capital Building Projects. She has been recognized for her exemplary participation in the NYS School Board Association's School Board Institute and has advocated for LS with our legislators. She has participated in the LS Redistricting Committee, Budget Subcommittee, Administrative Interview Committee, and Capital Building Project Committee, and has been an alternate delegate to the Erie County School Board Association Finance committee.

Mrs. Thompson has been a Resident of the Town of Evans for over 40 years. With her children having graduated from Lake Shore, she continues to support fiscal responsibility while seeing that Lake Shore offers students the best education possible in a safe and supportive environment."