



# Eagle Express

The Official Newsletter of the Lake Shore Central School District

Vol. 25 #3 SPRING 2022

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

**A. It is 1.95%, which across all towns in the school district (based on updated taxable assessed values and equalization rates) averages out to \$37.35 a year on a \$100,000 home. That is before STAR savings.**

**Q. How can there be 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.**

**VOTE**

**TUESDAY, MAY 17, 9 a.m.— 9 p.m.**

**Voting will be in the Lobby outside of the High School Gymnasium. Parking is available in the lower and upper parking lots located by the District Office.**

## Annual School Budget, Vehicle Purchase Referendum & Board Election Information

The Annual School Budget Referendum, Vehicle Purchase Referendum & Board Election will be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2022, between 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., in the Lobby outside the Gymnasium of Lake Shore High School, 959 Beach Road, Angola, New York 14006.

**Voters will cast their ballots on:**

- (1)** Approval of the Annual School District Budget for the 2022-23 School Year;
- (2)** The purchase of replacement vehicles (no tax increase);
- (3)** The election of three qualified district residents to the office of Member of the Board of Education.

The three candidates who receive the highest number of votes will fill the expired terms of the three incumbents and will serve on the Board of Education for three-year terms. The candidate who receives the highest number of votes will serve a term commencing immediately after the election (upon filing the oath of office) and continuing until June 30, 2025. The two candidates who receive the second- and third-highest number of votes will serve three-year terms commencing July 1, 2022 and continuing until June 30, 2025.

Absentee ballot information is on page 4.

Please note, your ballot will not be counted unless the statement of absentee voter is signed and returned to the District Clerk by the deadline: 5 p.m., on the day of the vote, May 17, 2022.

## Meet the Candidates On Tuesday, May 3rd

A night to "Meet the Candidates" for the Lake Shore Central School District Board of Education will be held on Tuesday, May 3rd at 6 p.m. in the High School Media Center, 959 Beach Road, Angola.

There are five candidates running for three expiring seats: Arlene DeJoy-Meckes, Dennis M. Feldmann, Megan L. Miller, William J. Connors, Jr., and Douglas M. Tubinis.

All questions for candidates must be submitted in advance via email to [BOEpubliccomment@lscsd.org](mailto:BOEpubliccomment@lscsd.org) **no later than noon on Monday, May 2nd.** Questions should be worded so all candidates can answer. Questions directed to one candidate will not be asked. Questions will be screened and used based on appropriateness, non-redundancy and time constraints.

The candidate biographies are on pages 4 and 5.

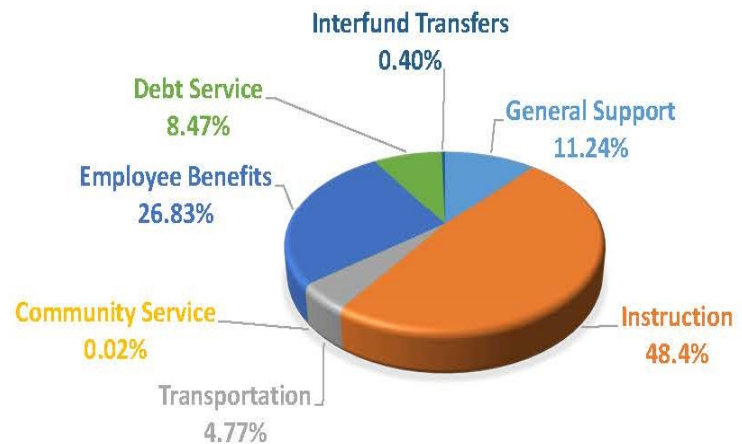
## Annual School Budget Meeting (Public Hearing)

The Annual School Budget Meeting (Public Hearing) for qualified district residents will be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2022 at approximately 7 p.m. (immediately following Meet the Candidates) in the Lake Shore High School Library-Media Center. Comments may be submitted via email to [budget.comments@lscsd.org](mailto:budget.comments@lscsd.org) no later than noon on Monday, May 2, 2022.

A copy of the District's Proposed Budget Document and the required attachments can be found on the District's website at [www.lakeshorecsd.org](http://www.lakeshorecsd.org).

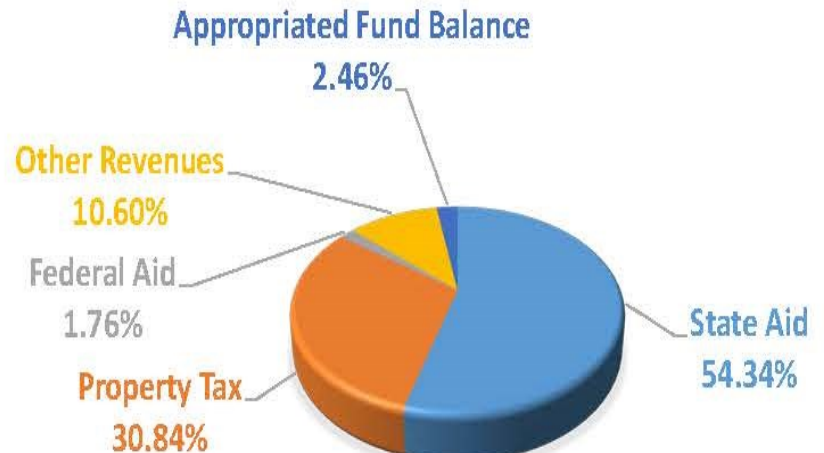
### Proposed Budget: 2022-23

	Proposed Budget	Percent of Budget
General Support	\$6,856,605	11.24%
Instruction	29,446,109	48.26%
Transportation	2,912,864	4.77%
Employee Benefits	16,370,021	26.83%
Debt Service	5,167,845	8.47%
Interfund Transfers	245,000	0.40%
Community Service	14,600	0.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$61,013,044</b>	<b>100.00%</b>



### Anticipated Revenues: 2022-23

	Proposed Budget	Percent of Budget
State Aid	\$33,157,360	54.34%
Property Tax	18,815,484	30.84%
Federal Aid	1,075,000	1.76%
Other Revenues	6,465,200	10.60%
Appropriated Fund Balance	1,500,000	2.46%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$61,013,044</b>	<b>100.00%</b>



## Proposition No. 1

Shall the following resolution be adopted:

**RESOLVED**, that the budget for the Evans-Brant (Lake Shore) Central School District for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023, as presented by the Board of Education in the amount of \$61,013,044 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 1.95% which does not exceed the statutory tax levy increase of 4.07%.

## Proposition No. 2

Shall the following resolution be adopted:

**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: two (2) full size diesel-powered 71-passenger school buses at an estimated maximum cost of \$133,862.48 each; one (1) full size battery electric powered 71-passenger school bus at an estimated maximum cost of \$170,665.97; one (1) 30-passenger gasoline-powered school bus at an estimated cost of \$72,570.87; and one (1) gasoline powered 24-passenger 5-wheel chair school bus at an estimated cost of \$83,976.90; for a total aggregate maximum cost of \$594,938.70; 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.** If the budget increase is just 0.57% (an increase of \$347,071), why is the tax rate increase 1.95%?

**A.** The local tax rate increase fills budget gaps from other areas, such as State Aid. State Aid only makes up 54% of the budget. The difference is paid by local revenue, including school taxes.

**Q.** What does the 1.95% increase mean to my taxes?

**A.** The average increase across all towns in the school district is \$37.35 (based on changes in equalization rates) on a \$100,000 home (before STAR savings).

**Q.** What is the District's maximum allowable tax increase?

**A.** New York State's allowable tax rate increase for Lake Shore this year was 4.07%, but the District focused on keeping it below 2%, and was able to achieve the lower 1.95% tax rate increase.

**Q.** Why is there no tax levy increase for Proposition 2?

**A.** There is no need to levy a tax to fund this proposition, but voters must approve the purchases. The transportation aid on the buses, coupled with revenue from the sale of the older vehicles, will fully fund the purchase of the new vehicles.

## Absentee Ballot Information

The District Clerk will automatically mail an Absentee Ballot to each voter whose registration record on file with the county board of elections is marked "permanently disabled." All other voters must submit an application prior to obtaining an absentee ballot.

Applications for Absentee Ballots are available 8 a.m. -4 p.m. in the District Clerk's office at Lake Shore High School, 959 Beach Road, Angola, NY. Applications also are online at [lakeshorecsd.org](http://lakeshorecsd.org).

The completed application must be received by the District Clerk at least **7 days before (May 10, 2022)** the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election **(May 16, 2022)**, if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter.

If you are qualified for absentee voting and issued an Absentee Ballot, the ballot must be received by the District Clerk **by 5:00 p.m. on the day of the election (May 17, 2022).**

### DISTRICT OFFICE

959 Beach Road  
Angola NY 14006  
716-549-2300

## Board of Education Election

The three candidates who receive the highest number of votes will fill the expired terms of three incumbents and will serve on the Board of Education for three-year terms. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes will serve a term commencing immediately after the election (upon filing the oath of office) and continuing until June 30, 2025. The two candidates receiving the second- and third-highest number of votes will serve three-year terms commencing July 1, 2022 and continuing until June 30, 2025. The biographical sketches below are submitted by the candidates and are presented in the order they will appear on the ballot. The opinions expressed are those of the candidates. Background information, as stated in the profiles, has not been verified by the school district.

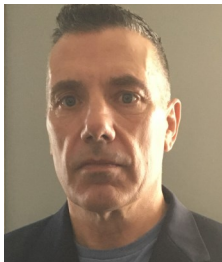


### Biography submitted by candidate Arlene DeJoy-Meckes

My name is Arlene DeJoy-Meckes and I am running for Lake Shore Central School Board. As a graduate of Lake Shore I am proud of our district and would like to continue serving the children and the community as a Board of Education member.

I have over 15 years of experience in the field of education and have 3 children in the Lake Shore District at the middle and high school levels. I attended both SUNY Fredonia and Nazareth College in Rochester to obtain a Secondary Education Degree and a Master's Degree in Educational Technology and have taught both secondary social studies in Pittsford N.Y. and ENL at BOCES.

My volunteer work includes serving on the school board for 5 months, Girls on the Run Coach, organizing toy and clothing drives for families in need and leading a campaign to increase recess and physical education for students. As a board of education member, I will continue to put children and families first and I hope to continue to work towards a positive community, school relationship.



### Biography submitted by candidate Dennis M. Feldmann

I grew up in the Town of Evans, one of seven children of Bernard and Joanna Feldmann. All my siblings and myself graduated from Lake Shore Central School District. After college, I made a decision to stay in the Town of Evans, being hired as a police officer with the Town of Evans Police Department.

In 1993, I started a new chapter in my life, marrying Jill Warner and deciding together to start a family. We were blessed with three amazing daughters, all three attending and graduating from Lake Shore Central before moving on to college.

In 2006, I was afforded the opportunity to serve on the Lake Shore Board of Education, serving until 2012. I thoroughly enjoyed my time on the board serving on several committees and continuing my educational requirements through NYSSBA and ECASB. In 2011, I was elected as councilman to the Evans Town Board, which led me to not run for re-election to avoid any conflict of interest situations.

I am choosing again to run for school board and if afforded the opportunity by the residents of this community, promise to meet the unique challenges facing school districts head on. With life experience, mandated training already completed, I could hit the floor running to serve you as you should expect and demand.



## Board of Education Election Con't ...



### Biography submitted by candidate Megan L. Miller

I have been an Angola resident for 10 years. I was born, raised & graduated from our neighboring school district, North Collins. My husband, Nate, is a dedicated lifelong resident & graduate of Lake Shore. Together, we are building the next generation of this beautiful community.

I am a stay-at-home mother of three wonderful children, Lukas (8), Elyse (4), and Bexley (1), who will be attending Lake Shore School District. I have always had a passion for children's wellbeing. For over 8 years, I have worked & volunteered through St. Vincent de Paul and the YMCA. When I became a mother, I devoted myself to my children. Once they started coming of school age, I wanted to stay as devoted/involved as much as possible. Personally I have experienced on many different occasions when involvement was limited or restricted. As a parent, I can relate to many of the concerns that we are facing with new policies, programs, and funding that are being implemented in our district. I believe the school board can do more to maintain open lines of communication in order to involve parents, teachers, students, & community members in decisions for our schools.

At a time when our children are learning to navigate this constantly changing world, as an elected board member, I pledge to be a moral compass, keeping politics, special agendas, and medical decisions out of our schools and in the homes of families. I humbly ask for your vote as a "Parents Voice for Parents' Choice."



### Biography submitted by candidate William J. Connors, Jr.

William J. Connors, Jr. (Bill) was first elected to the Board in 2013 and is seeking re-election to continue his prudent judgment in these still difficult financial times. Bill serves on the District Budget Committee as well as the Erie County Association of School Boards' Budget & Finance Team, and he is dedicated to keeping taxes low without cutting our children's curriculum needs. He is a 1990 graduate of Lake Shore Central Schools, and a 1994 graduate of Saint Bonaventure University with a BA Majoring in Business. Since school, Bill has made a career with business application software companies specializing in critical business functions, analytics, and reporting for manufacturing and distribution-based companies.

He is a Senior Executive for a U.S.-based software company selling and developing solutions for the SAP software solution set. Bill is married to Karen, a Planning & Governance Leader at Rich Products Corp in Buffalo, NY. The couple has two children: Will is a 2019 graduate of Lake Shore, and Simon, who is currently a junior here. The family lives in Evans, and if there's any spare time, helps out at Connors Hot Dog Stand, their family business. Bill is looking forward to continuing to serve the Lake Shore community to help enhance the college and career readiness of our students for a changing college and workforce environment around the world.



### Biography submitted by candidate Douglas M. Tubinis

My name is Douglas Tubinis and I am running for Lake Shore Central School Board. I am married to Annemarie and we have two young children. I have served as a police officer since 1997, serving the Village of Angola and later the Town of Evans. I have worked with the Lake Shore School District starting in 2008 where I later became the full time School Resource Officer in 2014 to 2021.

It has been my great pleasure to work with the youth of our community and their families. I have also worked with administration and staff of Lake Shore serving on building and district safety committees. I am for the rights of individuals and parents' choice and medical freedom. I plan to continue to serve this community by working with families and staff upholding the rights of parents and addressing any concerns they may have for a safe, productive community environment.



**Lake Shore Central Schools**  
**(Evans-Brant Central School District)**

**Annual Budget Vote, Vehicle Purchase Referendum & Board Election**

**May 17, 2022 – 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.**

**VOTE LOCATION:** Voting will be held in the Lobby outside the gymnasium at Lake Shore High School,  
959 Beach Road, Angola.

**Parking will be available to voters in the lower and upper parking lots located by the District Office.**

*If you have been in close or proximate contact with anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19  
in the past 10 days, you will need to wear a mask.*

**VOTERS should NOT enter the polling site if they:**

- Tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 5 days. Under current guidelines, you are expected to wear a mask from days 6-10.
  - Are experiencing any symptoms related to COVID-19.
  - Have a fever greater than or equal to 100.0°F.

If any voter anticipates not being able to enter the polling site, we strongly encourage you to submit an application for an absentee ballot. Applications are available on our website and in the District Clerk's office located in the High School. The Application for Absentee Ballot must be received by the District Clerk at least **7 days before (May 10, 2022)** the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election, if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. Absentee Ballots must be received by the District Clerk **by 5:00 p.m. on the day of the election (May 17, 2022).**

**Qualifications of Voters at District Meetings (Pursuant to Education Law §2012)**

- 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 Education 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.

**PLEASE NOTE: Voters should bring a valid photo ID to all District elections  
as they may be asked to show proof of name and/or address.**