

## **HUDSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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May 1, 2008

The Board of Education of the Hudson City School District is pleased to offer a spending plan for school year 2008-2009 that brings district taxpayers the lowest tax increase in more than 10 years and, by far, the lowest tax increase of all the schools of the county.

The 1.97% tax levy increase was arrived at after months of review by the board with Superintendent Fern Aefsky and her administrative team all working toward the goal of getting the best bang for taxpayer dollars.

Responding to rising transportation costs for students with special education, a group of students will be moved back to the district at a savings of \$125,000.

Looking at changing enrollment figures six teacher positions were targeted for cuts with the board restoring two-an English language arts and a reading teacher-both at the elementary where the extra help is needed.

Reviewing educational spending and building maintenance, the decision was made to hold the line on these expenses at the same levels as this year. It should be noted that good planning in past years will help in the coming year when it comes to energy costs. The district's participation in a consortium for these expenses will help hold down costs in a year when heating fuel will remain volatile.

The district has also benefited in the coming school year from the tireless support of our representations in Albany. Efforts by State Senator Stephen Saland and Assemblyman Marc Molinaro, both strong supporters of the district, brought Hudson from a meager \$20,000 increase in state aid under former Governor Elliott Spitzer's initial budget plan to more than \$500,000 with an additional \$400,000 in magnet funds. The district will honor Senator Saland's request that a portion of the additional funds go to technology. This expanded computer access is yet another plus for our students for the coming school year.

I encourage all district residents to vote this May 20<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,

Jack Mabb  
President  
Board of Education











