

# VOORHEESVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 2009-2010 ANNUAL SCHOOL BUDGET

*(Please bring this brochure with you to the Budget Hearing)*

**Budget Hearing:**      **Monday, May 11, 2009, 7:30 p.m.**  
                                  **High School Cafeteria**

**Vote:**                      **Tuesday, May 19, 2009 2-9:30 p.m.**  
                                  **Middle School Foyer**

Voters may be required to show proof of residency before voting. If you did not vote last year, please be prepared to provide the clerk with identification: driver's license, utility, or cable bill

**VOTING FOR:**  
**School Budget**  
**School Board Trustees**

**SEPARATE PROPOSITION FOR:**  
**The Purchase of One 60-Passenger Bus**

The Voorheesville Board of Education is proposing a budget for 2009-2010 of \$21,662,438 which is the same total amount as the 2008-2009 budget. The estimated tax levy will be \$14,753,939 or a 1.69% increase. This tax levy increase is due to a decrease in total State Aid to the District (*see page 2*).

The budget for 2009-2010 does include some staffing reductions (*see page 4*) due to a decline in enrollment. Staff positions that were originally targeted for reduction due to loss in State Foundation Aid have been restored. This includes reinstatement of teaching positions in the Middle School and in grade 2. Foundation Aid to districts has been restored to the same level as 2008-2009 using Federal *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act* funding (known commonly as stimulus money). The use of this funding has specific guidelines including the saving of jobs, advancing school reform, investment in staff development and unprecedented reporting requirements to ensure transparency.

<b>MAJOR CHANGES</b>	
Although the total budget is not changing, there are some shifts in cost categories as follows:	
Salaries	\$ 93,447
Fringe Benefits	\$ 71,298
Tuition: VOTEC & Special Education	\$ 195,887
Debt Service	\$ (291,490)
Utilities	\$ (82,600)
All Other	\$ 13,458
<b>Total Budget Increase:</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

**OF SPECIAL NOTE:**  
 Details for propositions are on pages 10-11 of your brochure.

## REVENUES AND TAX IMPACT...

### *Tax levy increase: Budget increase minus other revenue changes*

The estimated tax levy increase for 2009-2010 is \$244,991 or a 1.69% increase over the 2008-2009 estimated tax levy. The tax levy is determined by taking the total budget for 2009-2010 and subtracting all other sources of revenue including State Aid estimates. The tax levy is increasing, even though the budget for 2009-2010 is not changing, due to a decrease in Building Aid (see *State Aid below*). Please see the chart on the next page for a summary of anticipated revenues for 2009-2010.

The tax rate on tax bills is a function not only of the tax levy but also property assessments that are set by the Town Assessor and the equalization rate that is set by the New York State Board of Equalization and Assessments.

*If you have a question about your assessment, you should contact the assessor in your township (see contact information in lower left-hand corner below).*

## State Aid

- In December 2008, the District was put on notice that the Governor was recommending a State budget that reduced Foundation Aid to school districts up to 13%. Our District was to see a reduction of \$546,686 in State Aid for a *"Deficit Reduction Assessment"*. It is only through the flow of funds from the Federal government to New York State under the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (stimulus money)*, that these funds have been restored to schools throughout the State.
- Even though Foundation Aid to the District has been restored, the District will still see an overall decrease in State Aid due to a decrease in Building Aid. Building Aid is paid on bond issue payments, and the District completed payments on the 1989 and 1991 reconstruction bond issues in March 2009. The Building Aid on these bond issues will end June 30, 2009 (see **State Aid figures on the next page**). Total State Aid to the District will drop by \$290,691.
- In 2008-2009, State Aid represented 28.26% of all revenue sources. In 2009-2010, State Aid represents 26.9% of all revenue sources.

### Sliding Scale Senior Citizen Property Tax Exemptions Available...

Contact the Town Assessor's Office in  
your township for more information

Town of New Scotland..... 439-9020  
Town of Berne ..... 872-2259  
Town of Guilderland ..... 356-1980

### Basic STAR and Enhanced (Senior) STAR Program

These are exemptions for owner-occupied primary residences. Basic STAR is available to owners regardless of age or income. Enhanced STAR is available for senior citizens (65 years or older) with yearly household incomes not exceeding the statewide maximum. You must apply for the STAR Exemption at your Town Assessor's office.

For further information on STAR consult:  
[www.orps.state.ny.us/star/index.cfm](http://www.orps.state.ny.us/star/index.cfm)

## ESTIMATED REVENUES

	2008-2009 Budgeted Revenues	2009-2010 Budgeted Revenues	Net Change	% of Total Revenues
Property Tax/STAR	\$14,508,947	\$14,753,938	\$ 244,991	68.11%
Charges for Services	183,900	191,000	7,100	0.88%
Interest & Use of Property	144,000	142,000	(2,000)	0.66%
Refunds on Expenses	86,400	100,000	13,600	0.46%
State Aid	6,122,191	5,831,500	(290,691)	26.91%
Transfer for Debt / Appropriated Fund Balance	540,000	560,000	20,000	2.59%
Miscellaneous	77,000	84,000	7,000	0.39%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$21,662,438</b>	<b>\$21,662,438</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Increase in the tax levy is \$244,991 or 1.69%

## ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES

*In three component format as required by New York State Law*

The budget is divided into three sections as required by New York State: Program, Administrative and Capital. The definition of the Administrative budget was revised by the State Legislature in 2008. Numbers for 2008-2009 reflect that change, along with proposed 2009-2010 numbers.

Each section must include fringe benefit costs for personnel attributed to each area. The chart below delineates the percent of the whole represented by each of the three component budgets. Complete line item budgets are available in the District Office.

	2008-2009 Budgeted Expenditures	2009-2010 Budgeted Expenditures	Net Change	% of Total Expenditures
Program	\$15,612,381	\$15,962,201	\$ 349,820	73.69%
Administrative	1,976,030	2,010,712	34,682	9.28%
Capital	4,074,027	3,689,525	(384,502)	17.03%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$21,662,438</b>	<b>\$21,662,438</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

There is no increase in the budget

## Three-Part Budget Details

Total budget increase is 0%.

The following pages detail the 2009-2010 budget in the required three-part format. Fringe benefits for each section are listed with that section.

The Program Budget includes all expense items directly attributed to the education of students, or to providing services directly to students. This includes the cost of transporting students.

The Administrative Budget includes all costs for the Superintendent, Business Office, and Principals. This includes administration and/or supervision of: curriculum and instruction; operations and maintenance; transportation; budgeting and finance; insurance; and compliance with Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.

The Capital Budget includes all expenditures attributed to operating and maintaining the District's facilities, debt service, and payments for large capital expenditures such as the purchase of school buses.

There will be revisions in how duties for the support of the computer system and delivery of support services to students will be assigned. This will impact staffing with the following reductions in force:

- .4 FTE English Teacher
- .8 FTE Dean of Students

In addition, some *reductions* in teacher aide and secretarial time are planned for 2009-2010. These changes are as follows:

- 5 hours/day aide time at the Elementary School
- 15 hours/day aide time at the Middle/High School
- 3 secretarial positions reduced by one month per year each

Two teaching assistants and 1.0 FTE teacher position in Special Education have also been reduced, but there will be added Federal funding through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act that will allow the District to continue to provide positions for those people.

Although there will be staffing decreases, overall salaries for employees will be **increasing by \$93,447** due to union contract settlements already in place.

## New Programs

Although 2009-2010 is going to be a tough year financially, the District will be implementing modest new programs in the summer of 2009 to allow for expanded student opportunities. Except for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade science online course, students will pay a modest fee to participate in these programs. The programs are:

- Online 8<sup>th</sup> grade science for accelerated science students
- Keyboarding for grade 3-5 students
- Mandarin Chinese
- Video News Streaming training
- Math/Science/Technology camp
- Cole Writers Institute

Total District costs to institute these programs will be under \$5,500.

## Staffing Changes & Salaries

The Board of Education, school district administrators and bargaining units worked together to formulate the proposed staffing changes for the 2009-2010 school year. The budget planning phase presented two major problems: how to balance the budget in light of the expected loss in State Aid; and how to deal with declining enrollment, particularly enrollment in grades 9-12. Over the last four years the enrollment in grades 9-12 has decreased by almost 90 students.

Fortunately, State Foundation Aid has been restored to the District, but the issue of *declining enrollment* at the high school, and also the need to *institute further efficiencies*, has resulted in some staff reductions for 2009-2010. Those *reductions* are as follows in full-time equivalents (or FTE's). At the high school level, each .2 FTE equals 1 period per day of teaching.

- .4 FTE Grade 6-12 Instrumental Music Teacher
- .4 FTE HS Social Studies Teacher
- .4 FTE HS Math Teacher
- .275 FTE HS Art (1 full-year & 1 half-year course)

## 2009-2010 Proposed Staffing

(In FTE or Full-Time Equivalents)

K-5	Classroom Teachers	24.0
K-5	Art, Music, Library, P. E., Computer	6.4
6-12	Social Studies	7.6
6-12	English	7.0
6-12	Science	10.0
6-12	Math	7.6
7-12	Language	4.6
6-12	Technology & Business	5.0
6-12	Art, Classroom Music, Library	4.625
6-12	PE, Health, Family & Consumer Science	4.6
6-12	Dean of Students	.2
5-12	Instrumental Music	3.1
K-12	Psychologist, Guidance Counselors	7.0
K-12	Special/Remedial Education	17.0
7-12	Director of Athletics & Aquatics	1.0
K-12	Curriculum Coordinator	1.0
<b>Total Full-Time Equivalent</b>		<b>110.725</b>

## 2009-2010 Administrative Staff

K-5	Principal	1.0
6-12	Principals / Associate Principals	3.0
	Superintendent of Schools	1.0
	Assistant Superintendent for Business	1.0
<b>Total Full-Time Equivalent</b>		<b>6.0</b>

## Staff Development

In addition, to fulfill the intent of the Federal stimulus money, the District will be **expanding professional development programs** for teachers. The added budget amount for this is **\$30,000**. The teachers and the administration are currently working together on a professional development plan for continuous improvement of teacher quality to maximize the efficient use of these added funds. Professional development falls right in line with the Federal guidelines for expenditure of funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (which reinstated State Aid to school districts). The Federal government will be closely monitoring the use of these funds through unprecedented reporting requirements, to ensure Districts are using the money for the original intent. Our District will have to report on how the expenditure of these funds have met the Federal guidelines.

## Fringe Benefit Costs

Fringe benefits for district employees are either mandated by the government (Social Security, Workers' Compensation, Employees Retirement System of NYS and Teachers Retirement System), or are covered by union contracts (health and dental insurance).

The largest increase in this area is for health insurance. The District continues to review this area with employees looking for added savings.

For 2009-2010 the percentage of salary contributions the District will make to the retirement systems (ERS and TRS) will be less than in 2008-209. The District will be facing a steep escalation in retirement system costs in future years beyond 2009-2010 due to the poor performance of the stock market. Although the District is aware that this cost escalation will take place, there is no legal reserve in which the District can save money to offset some of this anticipated future cost.

The overall **increase** in cost for budgeted fringe benefits is **\$71,298**.

## Tuition – VOTEC & Special Education

There are educational programs that students attend outside of the school district. These include **Special Education** programs for students with special educational needs, and **part-time occupational education (Vo-Tec)** programs through BOCES for specific skills (building trades, culinary, automotive mechanic programs, etc.).

The number of students in part-time Vo-Tec can vary significantly from year to year. Billing is for the prior year's Vo-Tech enrollment, so the 2009-2010 budgeted figure actually represents costs for 2008-2009 enrollment. The budget for Vo-Tech tuition will **decrease by \$65,588**.

Special Education is provided when individual educational needs cannot be met within our district. Out-of-district costs are paid on a current year basis. The budget increase represents costs for students currently placed out-of-district in 2008-2009, plus anticipated placements in 2009-2010. The budget **increase** for these students is **\$261,475**. The development of programs for Special Education students is governed by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and New York State law and regulations.

## Debt Service

Debt for Bond Issues for Facilities: The District closely monitors debt service payment schedules using a five year model that coordinates debt service payments against State Aid (Building Aid) paid to the District for that debt. The District's Debt Service will **decline** overall **\$327,193** in 2009-2010.

*(Debt Service continued on Page 10)*

# PROGRAM BUDGET

73.69% of Total Budget; 2.24% Expense Increase

The **Program Budget** includes all expense items directly attributed to the education of students. This includes the cost of transporting students.

	2008-2009 Budget	2009-2010 Proposed Budget	\$ Change Budget to Budget
<b>Classroom Teaching</b>			
Teacher Salaries	\$ 5,669,485	\$ 5,661,650	\$ (7,835)
Substitute Teacher Salaries	142,000	142,000	0
Aides & Teacher Secretaries	268,100	249,500	(18,600)
Equipment	29,900	27,900	(2,000)
Contractual Expense	139,680	165,260	25,580
Supplies	141,629	137,140	(4,489)
Textbooks	92,700	101,100	8,400
BOCES Services	203,480	189,476	(14,004)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 6,686,974</b>	<b>\$ 6,674,026</b>	<b>\$ (12,948)</b>
<b>Programs for Students with Disabilities</b>			
Salaries	\$ 1,252,600	\$ 1,267,150	\$ 14,550
Equipment	3,000	2,000	(1,000)
Supplies & Contractual Expenses	21,000	30,500	9,500
Tuition – Private & BOCES	760,000	1,021,475	261,475
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 2,036,600</b>	<b>\$ 2,321,125</b>	<b>\$ 284,525</b>
<b>Occupational Education</b>	<b>\$ 291,500</b>	<b>\$ 225,912</b>	<b>\$ (65,588)</b>
<b>Adult Education/Summer School</b>	<b>\$ 43,450</b>	<b>\$ 46,050</b>	<b>\$ 2,600</b>
<b>Instructional Media</b>			
Library & Audiovisual	\$ 240,740	\$ 196,905	\$ (43,835)
Computer Assisted Instruction	153,600	153,600	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 394,340</b>	<b>\$ 350,505</b>	<b>\$ (43,835)</b>
<b>Pupil Services</b>			
Attendance	\$ 86,500	\$ 88,445	\$ 1,945
Guidance Services	344,020	355,626	11,606
Health, Psychological & Other Counseling Services	285,960	325,090	39,130
Co-Curricular Activities	81,825	73,600	(8,225)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 798,305</b>	<b>\$ 842,761</b>	<b>\$ 44,456</b>
<b>Interscholastic Athletics</b>	<b>\$ 295,160</b>	<b>\$ 310,180</b>	<b>\$ 15,020</b>

## PROGRAM BUDGET

(Continued)

	2008-2009 Budget	2009-2010 Proposed Budget	\$ Change Budget to Budget
<b>Transportation of Students</b>			
<i>(See bus purchase in a separate proposition)</i>			
Salaries	\$ 620,925	\$ 647,722	\$ 26,797
Equipment	4,000	4,000	0
Contractual Expenses	82,550	75,800	(6,750)
Supplies, Parts, Gasoline, etc.	201,900	174,375	(27,525)
Training by BOCES	800	800	0
Cost of Utilities for Bus Garage	28,400	28,400	0
Private Contract Transportation	13,000	10,000	(3,000)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 951,575</b>	<b>\$ 941,097</b>	<b>\$ (10,478)</b>
<b>Community Service</b>	<b>\$ 35,050</b>	<b>\$ 38,450</b>	<b>\$ 3,400</b>
<b>Employee Benefits</b>			
Retirement System	\$ 766,025	\$ 686,669	\$ (79,356)
Social Security	717,075	720,976	3,901
Workers' Compensation	59,150	49,240	(9,910)
Unemployment Insurance	3,000	3,000	0
Health Insurance	2,466,177	2,684,210	218,033
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 4,011,427</b>	<b>\$ 4,144,095</b>	<b>\$ 132,668</b>
<b>Interfund Transfers</b>			
Transfer to School Lunch Fund	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 0
Transfer to Special Aid Fund	18,000	18,000	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 68,000</b>	<b>\$ 68,000</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>Total Program Budget</b>	<b>\$ 15,612,381</b>	<b>\$15,962,201</b>	<b>\$ 349,820</b>
<b>Budget to Budget Change</b>			<b>2.24%</b>

### PROJECTED ENROLLMENTS: 2009-2010

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:**

Small class size will be maintained. Grades 1 & 2 will be divided into five sections for 2009-2010. All other grades are in four sections

**MIDDLE / HIGH SCHOOL:**

	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Projected Enrollment</u>	<u>Average Class Size</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Projected Enrollment</u>
	KDG	81	20.25	6	101
	1	86	17.2	7	98
	2	85	17.0	8	102
	3	92	23.0	9	88
	4	90	22.5	10	103
	5	93	23.25	11	99
				12	94
Elementary School Subtotal:		<u>527</u>		Middle/High School Subtotal:	<u>685</u>
				<b>District Total:</b>	<b><u>1,212</u></b>

# ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET

9.28% of Total Budget; 1.76% Expense Increase

The **Administrative Budget** includes all costs for the Superintendent, Business Office, and Principals. This includes administration and/or supervision of: curriculum and instruction; operations and maintenance; transportation; budgeting and finance; insurance; and compliance with Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.

	2008-2009 Budget	2009-2010 Proposed Budget	\$ Change Budget to Budget
<b>Board of Education</b>	\$ 27,760	\$ 28,010	\$ 250
<b>Central/Business Administration</b>			
Central Administration	\$ 190,320	\$ 207,300	\$ 16,980
Finance/Facilities/Transportation	436,312	455,530	19,218
Legal Services	39,000	58,000	19,000
Public Information	28,000	28,585	585
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 693,632</b>	<b>\$ 749,415</b>	<b>\$ 55,783</b>
<b>Other Centralized Costs</b>			
District Mailing	\$ 22,000	\$ 23,000	\$ 1,000
Liability Insurance	68,450	69,100	650
BOCES Administrative Charges	135,500	139,470	3,970
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 225,950</b>	<b>\$ 231,570</b>	<b>\$ 5,620</b>
<b>Supervision – Principals &amp; Staff</b>			
Salary – Principals & Staff	\$ 584,800	\$ 590,500	\$ 5,700
Adult Education Director	6,000	6,300	300
Equipment, Materials & Supplies	6,000	5,700	(300)
Contractual Expenses	13,500	12,300	(1,200)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 610,300</b>	<b>\$ 614,800</b>	<b>\$ 4,500</b>
<b>Employee Benefits for Administration</b>			
Retirement System	\$ 91,126	\$ 88,484	\$ (2,642)
Social Security	85,676	89,011	3,335
Workers' Compensation	4,562	3,140	(1,422)
Health Insurance	237,024	206,282	(30,742)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 418,388</b>	<b>\$ 386,917</b>	<b>\$ (31,471)</b>
<b>Total Administrative Budget</b>	<b>\$ 1,976,030</b>	<b>\$ 2,010,712</b>	<b>\$ 34,682</b>
<b>Budget to Budget Change</b>			<b>1.76%</b>

# CAPITAL BUDGET

17.03% of Total Budget: -9.44% Expense Decrease

The **Capital Budget** includes all expenditures attributed to operating and maintaining the District's facilities, debt service and payments for large capital expenditures.

*(See page 5 for an explanation for the large decrease in debt service)*

	2008-2009 Budget	2009-2010 Proposed Budget	\$ Change Budget to Budget
<b>Operation &amp; Maintenance of Plant</b>			
Non-Instructional Salary	\$ 586,893	\$ 607,880	\$ 21,087
Equipment	40,000	46,000	6,000
Contractual Expenses	751,800	662,200	(89,600)
Materials & Supplies	105,400	104,800	(600)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 1,484,093</b>	<b>\$ 1,420,980</b>	<b>\$ (63,113)</b>
<b>Debt Service</b>			
Principal on Bonds	\$ 1,315,000	\$ 1,089,000	\$ (226,000)
Interest on Bonds	823,520	670,577	(152,943)
Statutory Bond	150	150	0
BANS for Construction	0	53,750	53,750
Revenue & Tax/Anticipation Notes	5,000	3,000	(2,000)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 2,143,670</b>	<b>\$ 1,816,477</b>	<b>\$ (327,193)</b>
<b>Other Capital Expenses</b>			
Refund of Property Tax	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 0
Purchase of Buses	141,477	177,180	35,703
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 143,477</b>	<b>\$ 179,180</b>	<b>\$ 35,703</b>
<b>Fringe Benefits – Capital</b>			
Retirement System	\$ 46,803	\$ 49,247	\$ 2,444
Social Security	44,897	46,513	1,616
Workers' Compensation	20,088	14,620	(5,468)
Health Insurance	190,999	162,508	(28,491)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 302,787</b>	<b>\$ 272,888</b>	<b>\$ (29,899)</b>
<b>Interfund Transfer</b>			
Capital Fund	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>Total Capital Budget</b>	<b>\$ 4,074,027</b>	<b>\$ 3,689,525</b>	<b>\$ (384,502)</b>
<b>Budget to Budget Change</b>			<b>-9.44%</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 21,662,438</b>	<b>\$ 21,662,438</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

## Debt Service

(Continued)

Most of this decline is due to the final payment in March 2009 for the 1989/1991 bond issue, but all of the debt service for building projects has been constructed for debt to decline over time. The advantage to the District is lower interest costs on debt, plus an easing of the tax burden each year. In 2010-2011 debt service for building projects will decline another \$50,700, and in 2011-2012 it will decline another \$53,000.

Other Debt Service (Bus Purchases): The District receives State Aid of school bus purchases at an approximate rate of 50% of cost, including aid on any debt service costs. In 2005-2006 State Aid payments for bus purchases was changed from aid being paid in total to schools the year following a bus purchase to aid being spread over five years. The District has been financing the purchase of buses since then so that payments coordinate with aid. 2009-2010 will be the final year of a five year phase-in with the District having five different outstanding debt payments for buses. This is an **increase** in costs of **\$35,702**.

Total debt service for the District will **decrease** by **\$291,490**.

## Utilities

The District has been aggressive in monitoring energy usage throughout the buildings. We are seeing energy use drop between 16%-20% on natural gas and electricity due to lowering of temperatures to 68° throughout the building in the daytime and 62° at night. The District also participates in a large energy consortium which has helped stabilize energy costs to the District. Overall savings in 2008-2009 are expected to continue in 2009-2010 which has allowed for an overall **energy savings** to the budget of **\$82,600**.

## Other Budget Changes

In total, all other areas of the budget not delineated above amount to a budget **decrease of \$16,542**. This amount, combined with the inclusion of the \$30,000 increase in professional development outlined on page 5, gives a budget **increase** in "all other" areas noted on page 1 of **\$13,458**.

## BUDGET PROPOSITION FOR VOTERS

### **This is the exact wording of the Budget Proposition:**

Shall the Board of Education of the Voorheesville CSD be authorized to expend the sums set forth in the 2008-2009 Annual Budget in the total amount of **\$21,662,438**, and to levy the necessary tax therefore?

# Bus Purchase Proposition

The Board of Education is presenting a bus purchase proposition for voter approval at the same time as the budget vote. Buses must meet stringent Department of Transportation (DOT) inspection requirements for both mechanical parts and body integrity. In general, the District runs buses ten to twelve years. The District plans to purchase one 60-passenger bus to replace a 12-year-old bus. The District continues to review bus routes for added efficiencies. Bus routing is a function not only of the capacity of the bus, but also of the distance and time constraints within which the bus is run. The District is required by law to transport students attending non-public schools who live within 15 miles of their school, and to transport students with special needs placed in schools outside the District. This adds considerably to the cost of student transportation. Currently, the District transports to 26 different sites outside of the school boundaries. The District continues to explore ways to coordinate cooperative ways to transport these students with other districts.

State Aid for buses is paid over five years. By purchasing these buses with bond proceeds, the repayment of the bond will align with the flow of State Aid. The District can expect to receive approximately 50% aid on the cost of the new vehicles, including the cost for any financing.

## This is the exact wording of the Bus Proposition:

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Voorheesville Central School District is hereby authorized to pay the cost of the purchase of school buses, including incidental expenses, at a maximum estimated cost of **\$99,600**, and that 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 shall be issued.

If you have further questions about the budget or proposition, please call the District Office at 765-3313, ext. 101.

### Do You Want More Budget Information?

Go online: <http://vcsdk12.org>

A detailed outline of the 2009-2010 proposed school budget is available by clicking on a line on the home page of the school web site.

If you have budget questions, please call:  
Raymond Colucciello..... 765-3313 x104  
Sarita Winchell ..... 765-3313 x102

## VOORHEESVILLE SCHOOL REPORT CARD

Please go to the New York State Education Department web site to view the latest available information (2007-2008 school year) on student performance:

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/irts/reportcard/2008/home.html>

# QUALIFICATIONS OF VOTERS

To vote, you must be at least 18 years old, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the Voorheesville Central School District for at least 30 days prior to the vote.

## ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Residents who will be unable to vote in person can vote by absentee ballot. You may obtain an absentee ballot by sending a letter to the District Clerk with the following information:

- Date of the vote
- Reason you are unable to vote
- Your signature on the letter

If you would like an absentee ballot mailed to you, you must submit a letter of request to the Clerk by Tuesday, May 12. You may obtain a ballot after May 12 by submitting your letter, in person, to the Clerk. Completed absentee ballots must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 19, 2009. Call 765-3313 ext. 101 with questions.

## INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Raymond Colucciello, Ed.D.

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

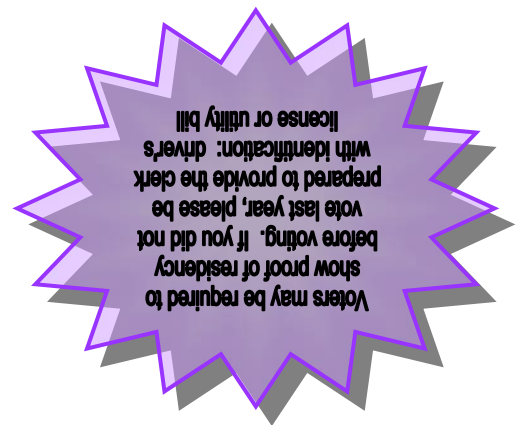
Timothy E. Blow	David M. Gibson	Lisa A. Henkel, <i>Ph.D.</i>
C. James Coffin	<i>President</i>	Gary A. Hubert
Cheryl L. Dozier, <i>Ph.D.</i>		Kevin T. Kroencke

- The term of C. James Coffin expires this year. Mr. Coffin has chosen to seek re-election.
- Dr. Dozier's appointment to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Paige A. Pierce expires June 30, 2009.
- Petitions have been received from the following persons:

*Justin C. Brusgul; Altamont, NY 12009*  
*Cheryl L. Dozier; Voorheesville, NY 12186*  
*C. James Coffin, Voorheesville, NY 12186*

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