

**Caldwell-West Caldwell
School District
2014-2015
School Budget**



**PUBLIC HEARING
APRIL 28, 2014**

Agenda for Public Hearing



- The Objectives and Context of the 2014-2015 Budget
- What is contained in the 2014-2015 Budget
- Highlights of the 2014-2015 Budget
- Where does the funding come from for the 2014-2015 Budget
- What is the impact on the local taxpayer
- Cost Containment
- How does approval of the budget impact the students?
- Some Interesting Facts

Objectives



- **To apprise parents and members of the public of developments concerning the 2014-2015 School Year Budget**
- **To provide an opportunity for parents and community members of the public to ask questions or give feedback about the proposed budget.**

Context: Budgetary Goals



- **Maintain quality programs, appropriate staffing levels, and meeting state and federal requirements, while exercising due diligence in the expenditure of public funds.**
- **Maintain acceptable class sizes.**
- **Continue to keep up with facility maintenance and improvements.**
- **Provide students and staff with educationally appropriate technology.**

Context: Budget Considerations



- **Maintain existing programs at current level of service**
- **Continue updating curricula to comply with the Common Core Standards**
- **Anticipate shifts in grade level teachers based upon enrollment**
- **Anticipate Out-of District Special Education Placements**
- **Anticipate fixed cost increases**
- **Continue State Initiative for evaluation & staff training**
- **Anticipate additional costs associated with PARCC testing**
- **Maintain basic facility upkeep and repairs, including health/safety maintenance, security, alarms, etc**
- **Continue shared services**

Context: Funding



- **Current NJ School Funding Law**
 - Tax Levy increase limited to 2%
 - Limited adjustments to cap spending (enrollment growth, health insurance and pension related increases)
 - Districts may utilize “banked” adjustments from previous school years
- **Caldwell-West Caldwell Funding 2014-2015**
 - 2013-2014 Budget= \$40,111,268
 - 2013-2014 Tax Levy= \$37,446,765
 - 2% of Current Tax Levy=\$ 748,936
 - Banked Cap available for 14-15 budget= \$ 2,274,827
 - Maximum Allowable Tax Levy Increase =\$ 3,023,763 or 8.07%
 - CWC Budgeted 2014-2015 Tax Levy increase = \$ 1,404,254 or 3.75%

What is contained in the Budget?



- **Maintain all current subject areas including special areas such as art, music, library science, and instrumental music**
- **Continuation of Middle School STEM Program**
- **After School Clubs and Athletic Programs, restoration of portion of Arts and Athletics at JCHS**
- **Current level of Special Education services will be offered including out-of-district placements**
- **Current instructional staffing levels remain the same**
- **Continued emphasis on student academic growth, requiring staff development through training and workshops**
- **Capital improvement projects to maintain the quality of the infrastructure of our schools**

Overview of Expenditures

The proposed 2014-2015 school budget contains a total General Fund in the amount of \$43,445,132 which is made up the major categories as follows:



Description	Adjusted	Proposed	Net Change	Net
	Budget	Budget		Change
	2013-2014	2014-2015		%
Salary	23,886,158	24,266,340	380,182	1.60%
Health Benefits	5,351,850	5,692,755	340,905	6.37%
Other Benefits	1,579,175	1,666,895	87,720	5.55%
Special Education	3,480,493	3,729,784	249,291	4.74%
Building/Grounds/Utilities	2,205,128	2,136,357	(68,771)	-11.70%
Instructional	813,336	865,917	52,581	6.46%
Transportation	1,115,862	1,118,490	2,628	0.24%
Other	1,481,841	1,343,716	(138,125)	-9.23%
Capital Outlay	529,203	426,392	(102,811)	-19.43%
General Expenditures	40,443,046	41,246,646	803,600	1.99%
Grants/Entitlements	817,669	839,261	21,592	2.64%
Debt Repayments	1,210,988	1,359,225	148,237	12.24%
Total Expenditures	42,471,703	43,445,132	973,429	2.29%

Where Does the Funding Come From?



Description	Adjusted Budget 2013-2014	Proposed Budget 2014-2015	Net Change	Net Change %
Local Tax Levy	37,446,765	38,851,019	1,404,254	3.75%
Budgeted Fund Balance	842,188	559,500	(282,688)	-33.57%
State Aid	1,352,401	1,404,451	52,050	3.85%
Misc. Revenue*	114,914	163,676	48,762	42.43%
Withdrawal From Cap Reserve			-	
Local Share	-	188,160	188,160	100%
Withdrawal From Cap Reserve			-	
Other Capital Projects	355,000	79,840	(275,160)	-77.51%
Adjustments Prior Year Encumbrances	331,778		(331,778)	-100%
Total Operating Budget	40,443,046	41,246,646	803,600	1.99%
Grants and Entitlements	817,669	839,261	21,592	12.20%
Debt Repayment				
State Debt Service	364,484	409,101	44,617	12.24
Local Repayment of Debt	846,504	950,124	103,620	12.24
Total Repayment of Debt	1,210,988	1,359,225	148,237	12.24
TOTAL REVENUE/SOURCES	42,471,703	43,445,132	973,429	2.29%

* Rental of facility, athletic, play, dance receipts, interest, misc.

Impact on local taxpayer



The 2014-2015 school budget contains an overall general tax levy increase of \$1,404,254 or 3.75% which is within the limits of the NJDOE cap limitations.

The tax levy associated with Debt Service (related to the 2008 referendum) increased by \$ 103,620 or 12.24%.

	<u>Caldwell</u>	<u>West Caldwell</u>
2013 tax rate (per \$100/assessed value)	1.153	1.178
2014 tax rate (per \$100/assessed value)	<u>1.183</u>	<u>1.219</u>
Increase/Decrease(per \$100/assessed value)	0.0298	0.0407
Increase/Decrease on an average home Valued at \$400,000	\$119.20	\$162.80

Impact on local taxpayer



Caldwell- Average House Assessment=\$ 400,000

Average Monthly Tax Increase	\$ 9.93
Average Annual Tax Increase	\$ 119.20

West Caldwell-Average House Assessment= \$ 400,000

Average Monthly Tax Increase	\$13.56
Average Annual Tax Increase	\$ 162.80

Cost Containment Measures



- **Cooperative Purchasing:**

- Natural Gas and Electrical provided through ACES co-op
- Instructional/Non-instructional Materials and Supplies purchased through EdData and Middlesex Cty. Co-op

- **Professional Development:**

- Agreement with 3 neighboring districts for staff development

- **Insurance Coverage and Benefits:**

- Member Of School Alliance Insurance Fund for general liability, workers comp, property coverage
- Provides Health Benefits through state health benefit plan

- **Transportation/Fuel:**

- Member of Sussex County Regional Co-Op for out-of district placements and athletic trips

- **Custodial/Maintenance:**

- Agreement with municipalities for use of heavy machinery, recycling, and use of facilities for recreational purposes

Impact on the students



The Caldwell- West Caldwell School Budget is the financial plan to accomplish educational objectives.

- Students continue to enjoy learning in a safe, clean, and high performing District.
- Students benefit from a wide range of extracurricular opportunities in the arts, athletics, and academic.
- Restructuring of Technology Department has allowed the District to upgrade and maintain the infrastructure and educational hardware, delivering reliable support.
- The elementary school band program will continue to foster an appreciation of the fine arts in our District at a young age. After school clubs will continue to be encouraged .
- We will continue to provide small group instruction for the enrichment program, basic skills program and the special education programs.

Looking Beyond 2014-2015



- **Teachers, Custodial/Maintenance, Secretarial, and Administrators contracts expire June 30, 2015**
- **Investment in Technology Infrastructure**
- **Providing on-going professional development and curriculum development**
- **Funding for state mandated staff evaluation system**
- **Continue to monitor out-of-district placements, developing more programs to keep children in-district for as long as possible**

Some interesting facts

Comparative Spending Snapshot



Taxpayers' Guide to Education Spending 2013 Budgetary Per Pupil Cost

DISTRICT	AMOUNT	County Rank
BELLEVILLE TOWN	\$11,051	16
BLOOMFIELD TWP	\$11,598	15
CALDWELL-WEST CALDWELL	\$13,402	11
CEDAR GROVE TWP	\$13,493	10
EAST ORANGE	\$19,261	1
GLEN RIDGE BORO	\$13,258	12
IRVINGTON TOWNSHIP	\$15,929	5
LIVINGSTON TWP	\$14,131	9
MILLBURN TWP	\$14,571	7
MONTCLAIR TOWN	\$14,812	6
NEWARK CITY	\$18,268	2
NUTLEY TOWN	\$13,152	13
CITY OF ORANGE TWP	\$16,182	3
SOUTH ORANGE- MAPLEWOOD	\$14,234	8
VERONA BORO	\$12,085	14
WEST ORANGE TOWN	\$15,933	4

State Median

\$ 13,889

Some interesting facts

Comparative Spending Snapshot



Taxpayers' Guide to Education Spending 2013 Administrative Per Pupil Cost

DISTRICT	2012-2013 school year	County Rank
BELLEVILLE TOWN	\$1,322	15
BLOOMFIELD TWP	\$1,590	8
CALDWELL-WEST CALDWELL	\$1,589	9
CEDAR GROVE TWP	\$1,945	1
EAST ORANGE	\$1,745	4
GLEN RIDGE BORO	\$1,857	3
IRVINGTON TOWNSHIP	\$1,461	12
LIVINGSTON TWP	\$1,595	7
MILLBURN TWP	\$1,458	13
MONTCLAIR TOWN	\$1,287	16
NEWARK CITY	\$1,711	5
NUTLEY TOWN	\$1,628	6
CITY OF ORANGE TWP	\$1,911	2
SOUTH ORANGE-MAPLEWOOD	\$1,483	11
VERONA BORO	\$1,404	14
WEST ORANGE TOWN	\$1,564	10
State median	\$1,599	

State Median

\$ 1,599

Some interesting facts

Comparative Spending Snapshot



General Fund Tax Levy		Increase/ (decrease)
2014-2015	38,851,019	1,404,254
2013-2014	37,446,765	734,325
2012-2013	36,712,440	(227,422)
2011-2012	36,939,862	18,610
2010-2011	36,921,252	
Net Change:		1,929,767

With the steady rise in salary, benefits, and utility costs over the years, an overall increase of 5.23% over FIVE years (or 1.05% per yr.) on the tax levy is modest and fiscally sound.

If calculated on the allowable “cap” increases, the levy could have risen to \$ 39,964,751 over the same period

Some interesting facts

Comparative Spending Snapshot



General Fund Operating Budget History		Increase/ (decrease)
2014-2015	41,246,646	1,135,378
2013-2014	40,111,268	867,657
2012-2013	39,243,611	246,920
2011-2012	38,996,691	1,500,869
2010-2011	37,495,822	
Net Change:		2,350,824

Over a period of five years, the operating budget has grown 6.27%.

Over the same period the COLA was 6.8%*

* SSA Website-Cost of Living Rates

Thank You



It is no secret that CWC students receive outstanding and balanced opportunities to do well in our schools-even during a time when school budgets are in the news The Board of Education has built a budget that speaks to the continuing needs of our students.

Thank you for your dedication and service to the children of the community.

Mary Davidson, President
Paula Getty, Vice-President
Thomas Adams
Daniel Cipoletti
Marie Lanfrank

Thank you to the District Administrators, Directors and Staff who worked cooperatively to develop this budget plan in alignment with the district's educational programs.