

# VALLEY VIEWS

## NEWARK VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION: Randal H. Kerr, President, James Phillips, Vice President,  
Robert Bennett, Thomas Darpino, Scott Parmelee, Anthony D. Tavelli, Sue Watson  
EDITOR: Laura J. Johnson

[www.nvcs.stier.org](http://www.nvcs.stier.org)



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May, 2015 - Budget Issue

### SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

In the following pages you will find the details on the adopted budget for the 2015-2016 school year. The circumstances surrounding the development of this expenditure plan were, in many ways, similar to those we have faced throughout the past several years. As has been our practice, the Board of Education stayed true to the guiding principle of balancing the needs of our children with the ability of taxpayers to support those needs.

One major difference in developing next year's budget was the decision in Albany to reduce the Gap Elimination Adjustment by roughly 65%. The GEA is the state aid that has been withheld from school districts and used by New York State to balance their own budget. By withholding less, we were able to operate in an environment of less fiscal pressure than previous years. However, it is important to note that the cumulative impact of the GEA over the past several years will take many, many budget cycles to recover from. Newark Valley Schools have lost millions of dollars in state aid over the past several years due to the Gap Elimination Adjustment.

Another difference is the structure of the tax rebate plan for year two. Like last year, New York State is offering a tax rebate to STAR eligible homeowners with a household income of less than \$500,000. As of this writing, the operational guidance has not been released by the Department of Taxation and Finance with the following exceptions:

Eligible homeowners in a school district who remains at or below their allowable levy limit and submits an acceptable efficiency plan to NYS will receive a check from the Department of Taxation and Finance for the dollar increase in their school

tax bill in the fall of 2015 plus the amount received last year. As was the case last year, increases due to owner action and subsequent re-assessment are not covered.

The Newark Valley Central School District has adopted a budget below the allowable levy limit for the 2015-2016 school year and completed an efficiency plan for submission to NYS. Based on the guidance received from NYS thus far, this would qualify our residents for the above tax rebate. After several months of work, the Board adopted a budget that increases expenditures by approximately 2.4% and results in a necessary tax levy increase of 1.5%.

Once again, this budget reflects a commitment to maximizing program offerings and meeting the needs of our students. Our budget includes the addition of a Library Media Specialist, the restoration of a Guidance Counselor (.4), expansion of on-line course offerings, further expansion of our career transition program, a focus on class size reduction in Kindergarten and Grade 1, and the replacement of Buildings and Grounds equipment, which has been postponed for several years.

Once again, the Board of Education has maintained a focus on conservative growth and a high return on investment through efficiency. We continue to remain grateful for your support of our schools, and, as always, strive to provide the best education for our students while minimizing the impact on our taxpayers.

Sincerely,  
*Ryan Dougherty*  
- Superintendent of Schools

## Propositions on the Ballot

### BUDGET:

Shall the Board of Education be authorized to expend the sum of \$24,712,375 for the 2015-2016 school year and to levy the necessary tax therefore?

### PROPOSITION NO. 1

Shall the Board of Education of the Newark Valley Central School District, New York, be authorized to acquire school buses and a buildings and grounds vehicle for the School District for its 2015-2016 Fiscal Year, at a maximum cost of \$430,000 and to authorize and issue serial bonds in the principal amount of \$337,500 and to levy real estate taxes for a portion of the cost of such purpose?

### PROPOSITION NO. 2

Shall the Board of Education of the Newark Valley Central School District, New York, be authorized to expend \$92,500 from a voter approved capital reserve fund established by the District on May 12, 1993, as amended on May 21, 2002, for the purposes of paying a portion of the costs of the acquisition of school buses and a buildings and grounds vehicle for the School District for its 2015-2016 Fiscal Year?

BUDGET AT A GLANCE				
ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES				
BUDGET COMPONENT	2014/2015	2015/2016	\$ CHANGE	% CHANGE
ADMINISTRATIVE	\$ 2,433,495	\$ 2,501,445	\$ 67,950	2.79%
PROGRAM	\$ 17,281,808	\$ 17,542,556	\$ 260,748	1.51%
CAPITAL	\$ 4,415,794	\$ 4,668,374	\$ 252,580	5.72%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 24,131,097</b>	<b>\$ 24,712,375</b>	<b>\$ 581,278</b>	<b>2.41%</b>
ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES				
OBJECT OF EXPENSE	2014/2015	2015/2016	\$ CHANGE	% CHANGE
STAFF	\$ 9,461,979	\$ 9,778,826	\$ 316,847	3.35%
EQUIPMENT	\$ 56,666	\$ 102,650	\$ 45,984	81.15%
PURCHASED SERVICES	\$ 1,258,925	\$ 1,385,485	\$ 126,560	10.05%
MATERIALS	\$ 847,000	\$ 912,068	\$ 65,068	7.68%
TUITION	\$ 63,000	\$ 65,000	\$ 2,000	3.17%
TEXTBOOKS	\$ 45,000	\$ 45,000	\$ -	0.00%
B.O.C.E.S. SERVICES	\$ 2,706,172	\$ 2,713,862	\$ 7,690	0.28%
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$ 7,501,970	\$ 7,429,826	\$ (72,144)	-0.96%
INTERFUND TRANSFERS	\$ 2,190,385	\$ 2,279,658	\$ 89,273	4.08%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 24,131,097</b>	<b>\$ 24,712,375</b>	<b>\$ 581,278</b>	<b>2.41%</b>
ESTIMATED REVENUE OFFSET				
SOURCE OF REVENUE	2014/2015	2015/2016	\$ CHANGE	% CHANGE
STATE AID	\$ 14,458,238	\$ 15,056,594	\$ 598,356	4.14%
OTHER SOURCES	\$ 822,652	\$ 868,726	\$ 46,074	5.60%
APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE	\$ 900,000	\$ 850,000	\$ (50,000)	-5.56%
APPROPRIATED RESERVES	\$ 449,805	\$ 330,000	\$ (119,805)	-26.63%
FEDERAL AID	\$ 45,000	\$ 40,000	\$ (5,000)	-11.11%
TAX LEVY	\$ 7,455,402	\$ 7,567,055	\$ 111,653	1.50%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 24,131,097</b>	<b>\$ 24,712,375</b>	<b>\$ 581,278</b>	<b>2.41%</b>

### PROPOSITION NO. 3

Shall the Board of Education of the Newark Valley Central School District, New York, be authorized to undertake the construction, reconstruction and equipping of the elementary/middle school building, the high school building, and the School bus garage, including repairs to the Alexander Park dam, upgrades to the district wide telephone system and parking lot lighting upgrades, and including site development, at a maximum cost of \$15,517,195 and to authorize and issue serial bonds in the principal amount of \$14,017,195 and to levy real estate taxes for a portion of the cost of such purpose?

### PROPOSITION NO. 4

Shall the Board of Education of the Newark Valley Central School District, New York, be authorized to expend up to \$1,500,000 from a voter approved capital reserve fund established by the District on May 11, 1994 for the purposes of paying a portion of the costs of the construction, reconstruction and equipping of the elementary/middle school building, the high school building, and the School bus garage, including repairs to the Alexander Park dam, upgrades to the district wide telephone system and parking lot lighting upgrades, and including site development?

## Candidates for the Board of Education

*The following statements were prepared by the candidates, and have not been altered or edited by the district. The candidates are solely responsible for the content of their statement.*

### James Phillips

James "Jim" Phillips has been a resident of Newark Valley for 25 years and has already graduated 6 children and 1 grandchild from the Newark Valley School District. Jim has two grandchildren in the district, a seventh and ninth grader. As a father and grandfather, he takes great interest in our community and school district. And, as a property owner and taxpayer, he also cares a great deal about ensuring that our school district continues to advance, while acting fiscally responsible.

Mr. Phillips has been very active in the community, coaching NTYL Youth Football for the past 20+ years, coaching NTYL wrestling, and has also coached youth softball in the past. While he is dedicated to the wonderful academic programs Newark Valley offers, he is also very devoted to ensuring the success of our athletic teams and the experience of our student athletes. Jim takes great pride in watching the boys and girls he coaches continue on to compete on our school's teams and still remains in touch with many of them.

Jim has greatly enjoyed his time as a member of the Board and would really like to continue in this capacity. He feels that while this has certainly been a positive experience for him, he and his fellow board members have also had the opportunity to implement necessary changes to our district. He looks forward to the chance to continue serving our community and the Newark Valley School District for the next three years.

### Thomas Darpino

- Education- Graduated from Owego Free Academy, June 1986
- Family- Wife- Debbie, October 1989 Children- Samantha, Jessica, Vincent, Tony
- Residence- Southern Tier most of his life, Newark Valley for the last 21 years
- Occupation- Sole Proprietor, Darpino Builders & Remodelers, since 1991
- Community Involvement- NVCS School Board Member, NTYL-coach, past president

Tom has served on the NVCS School Board for the past nine years. He has sat on the Facilities Planning Team and the NVMS Site Based Team. He desires to continue to serve the community and the children in this capacity.

Tom's desire to ensure every child is given the opportunity to reach their full potential is his reason for running for the school board. He is eager to continue to dedicate his time and energy into creating the absolute best school system in the area. Tom will apply common sense solutions to the challenges that face our district, always keeping the children the main focus.

Tom has the desire to continue to learn and work with a team of people to create a school system that is focused on every area of the educational experience; First and foremost academics and vocation, and secondly the arts and sports.

### R."Scott" Parmelee

As a life long resident of the local community and a graduate of Newark Valley High School, I would like to continue to serve the community, the school and most importantly the students of the district as a member of the NVCS School Board of Education.

The last nine years spent serving on the NVCS Board of Education have provided me an invaluable education in the workings of the Board, the budget process and how to listen to the community with an objective opinion. In the tough fiscal times we are all experiencing, this previous service will prove an excellent tool as we strive as a school district, and as a community, to get the most possible benefit from the limited resources we have available.

Much has been accomplished in the last nine years both in terms of physical improvements to the school and the athletic areas but much remains to be done.

I would like to encourage all members of the district to get involved in their schools and/or activities in and around the schools. Volunteering for a committee, supporting one of the teams or enjoying a concert – there are many different ways to support what we do and more support is always welcome.

The Cardinal sports team theme for the 2014-2015 school year has been commitment. We expect commitment from our students, and from our student athletes, we should not expect less from our Board of Education members. I am a committed member and would appreciate your vote for my continued service to the Board.

**DATE OF VOTE**  
**Tuesday, May 19, 2015**  
**12:00 – 8:00 p.m.**  
**Richard H. Kerr Board Room**  
**Newark Valley District Office**  
**79 Whig Street**

**NEWARK VALLEY**  
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Newark Valley, NY 13811

Non-Profit  
Organization  
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## **VOTER QUALIFICATIONS**

Voting upon the budget and Board  
candidates will occur:

**Tuesday, May 19, 2015 – 12:00 - 8:00 p.m.**  
**DISTRICT OFFICE – 79 Whig Street**

To be eligible to vote, you must fulfill ALL of  
the following requirements:

- be a citizen of the United States
- be at least 18 years of age; and
- be a resident of the District for at least 30 days preceding the meeting at which you offer to vote.

**CAPITAL  
PROJECT AND  
BUDGET  
HEARING**

**Monday,  
May 11, 2015  
6:30 p.m.**

**Richard H. Kerr  
Board Room  
Newark Valley  
District Office,  
79 Whig Street**

