

Wappingers Central School District

2023-2024

TAX RATE PRESENTATION

August 14, 2023

Taking the Next Step

The Mission of the Wappingers Central School District is to Empower ALL of our Students with the Competences and Confidence to Challenge themselves, to Pursue their Passions, and to Realize their Potential while Growing as Responsible Members of their Community.

Wappingers Central School District

Board of Education

John Lumia, President

Marie Johnson, Trustee

Peggy Kelland, Trustee

Michael McFarland, Trustee

Cheryl Migatz, Trustee

John S. Morgan, Vice President

Keith Odums, Trustee

Eddy A. Sloshower, Trustee

James Spencer, Trustee

Senior Staff Administration

Dr. Dwight Bonk, Superintendent of Schools

Daren Lolkema, Assistant Superintendent for Administration and Information Systems

Dr. Michelle Cardwell, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

Kristen Dainty, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Business Development

Richard Zipp, Assistant Superintendent of Student Support Services

Renee Harris, Executive Director of Human Resources

Julia Montoya, Executive Director of Special Education

Ronald Broas, Director of Facilities III

Alberta Pedro, District Clerk and Secretary to the Superintendent

Taking the Next Step

Gaining a Better Understanding of School Tax Rates

- **Assessments** are the valuation of real property including exempt properties and whether such property is subject to valuation by each Town's assessor.
- **Equalization Rates** are the percentage of full values set by New York State (NYS) at which the taxable real property for a municipality is assessed.
- The **Tax Levy** is the amount received in property taxes.

2023-2024 School Tax Rates

- The “tax cap” applies to the tax levy, not to tax rates by town or a taxpayer’s bill.
- The legislation caps the tax levy limit at 2.0% for 2023-2024.
 - Exclusions for 2023-2024 - capital levy only
- WCSD complies with all reporting requirements for STAR refunds.
- Superintendent/Municipality meetings - convened quarterly.
- School budget & tax documents are available on WCSD website.

Taking the Next Step

2023-2024 Budget - \$287,091,282



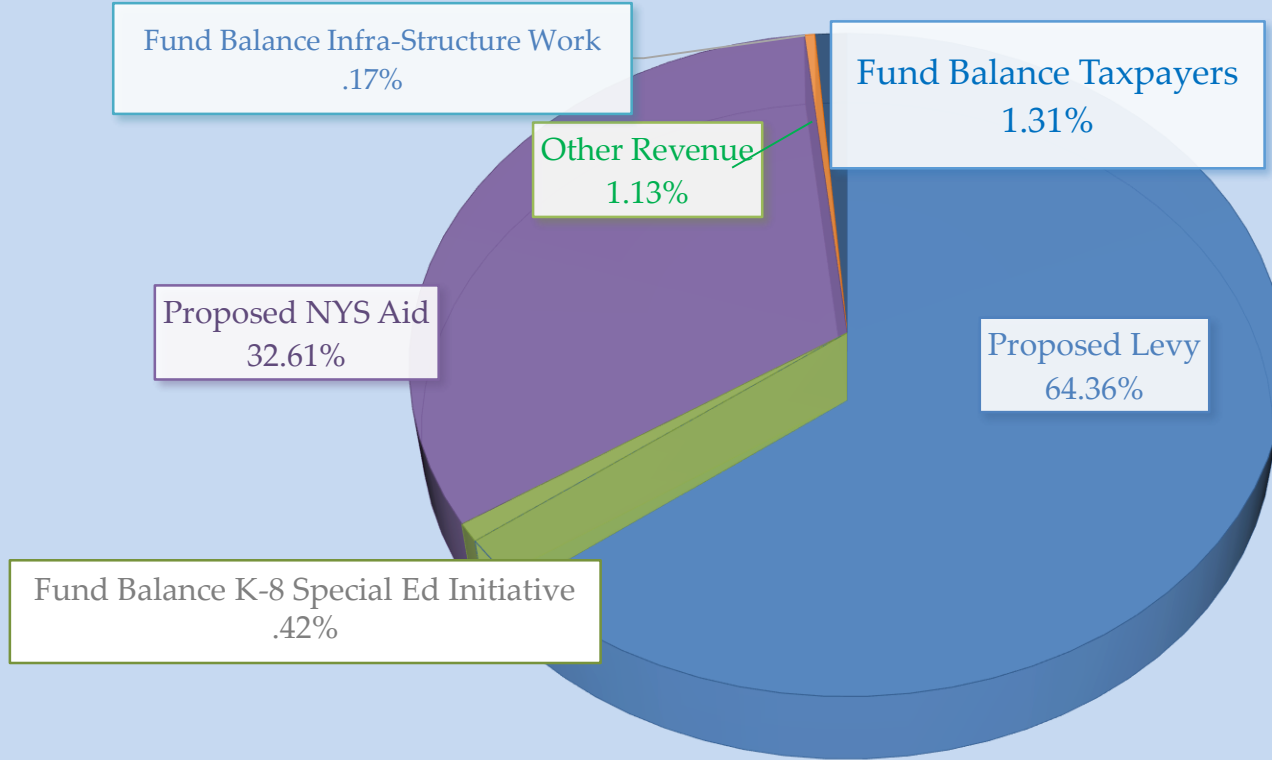
TAX LEVY		BUDGET	
2022-2023 Approved Tax Levy	\$181,192,000	2022-2023 Approved Budget	\$265,714,022
2023-2024 Proposed Tax Levy	\$184,223,905	2023-2024 Proposed Budget	\$287,091,282
Levy to Levy \$	\$3,031,905	Budget to Budget \$	\$21,377,260
Levy to Levy %	1.67%	Budget to Budget %	8.05%

NYS Aid increase in 2023-2024 of \$15,331,672 means less of a burden to WCSD taxpayers.

Taking the Next Step

2023-2024 WCSD Revenue by Source

Proposed Budget
\$287,091,282



Taking the Next Step

How are School Taxes Calculated?

Assessments

- Each Town Assessor determines the valuation of real property including exempt properties and whether such property is subject to valuation.
- Clergy and Firefighter exemptions remain in existence in 2023-2024.
 - First year of volunteer firefighter and EMS exemption – Town of Poughkeepsie
- Tax grievance day is in May for each town.
- Final assessments received in late July or early August from each town classified by Homestead & Non-Homestead.

Taking the Next Step

How are School Taxes Calculated?

Equalization Rates

- Percentage of full values at which the taxable real property for a municipality is assessed.
- Used to create uniform assessments and rates among municipalities (i.e.: market value = selling price).
- Finalized by the Office of Real Property Tax Services in late July to early August.
- 2023-2024 To Note: Town of LaGrange rate decreased from 81.00% to 71.20% - significant reduction. Putnam Counties continue to see significant reductions as well.

Town	2022-2023 Equalization Rate
East Fishkill	100.00%
Fishkill	100.00%
LaGrange	71.20%
Poughkeepsie	100.00%
Wappinger	100.00%
Kent	68.80%
Philipstown	35.22%

(This trend has an inverse relationship on rates – lower equalization rates mean higher tax rates per \$1,000 in those municipalities)

Taking the Next Step

How are School Taxes Calculated?

Tax Levy

- Total amount of money to be raised by the school district after all other sources of revenue are identified.
- The portion of the budget funded by property taxes.
- The tax cap legislation has changed the budget process with the tax levy at the forefront of the conversations and planning.
- District decision to remain within the tax cap (simple majority) or to exceed the tax cap (super majority).

Tax Levy

2022-2023 & 2023-2024

DUTCHESS COUNTY

2023-2024

Avg Homestead tax rate per \$1,000

\$15.14

\$.40 decrease from 2022-2023

2023-2024

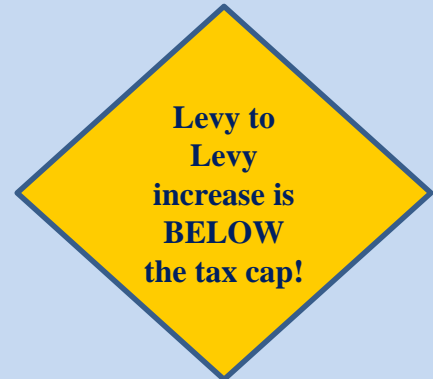
Avg Non-Homestead tax rate per \$1,000

\$23.45

\$.17 increase from 2022-2023

2022-2023 Approved Tax Levy	2023-2024 Approved Tax Levy
\$181,192,000	\$184,223,905
2022-2023 to 2023-2024 \$ Increase	2022-2023 to 2023-2024 % Increase
\$3,031,905	1.67%

	Levy Amount
2020-2021	\$175,328,236
2021-2022	\$179,699,213
2022-2023	\$181,192,000



Taking the Next Step

School Tax Rates – Homestead

2023-2024

Comparison of the taxable assessed values and tax rates over recent years reflect a small change for homestead taxpayers (Dutchess County, inclusive of Clergy and Firefighter and EMS exemptions) and continued trend of **stability** and **growth**. *Poughkeepsie realized the only volunteer firefighter exemption in 2023-2024 – the first year as you can see below.*

Town	2021-2022 Total Taxable Assessed	2022-2023 Total Taxable Assessed	2023-2024 Total Taxable Assessed	2021-2022 to 2022-2023 % Difference	2022-2023 to 2023-2024 % Difference
East Fishkill	\$3,280,156,893	\$3,679,185,102	\$4,032,182,216	12.16%	9.59%
Fishkill	\$1,334,776,890	\$1,477,377,885	\$1,637,056,425	10.68%	10.81%
LaGrange	\$101,557,899	\$101,812,073	\$101,952,579	.25%	.0014%
Poughkeepsie	\$993,401,912	\$1,195,345,639	\$1,313,226,477	27.67%	9.86%
Wappinger	\$2,155,549,900	\$2,383,822,051	\$2,646,424,745	17.97%	11.02%

Taking the Next Step

Historical Data on WCSD School Taxes

Past School Tax Rate presentations can be viewed at our website:

[2022-2023](#)

[2021-2022](#)

[2020-2021](#)

[2019-2020](#)

Taking the Next Step

WCSD has...

- A fiscally responsible balanced budget inclusive of long term planning that is *BELOW* the tax cap.
- Solid property values by the Towns & Villages in Dutchess County.
- Consistent New York State Equalization Rates.
- Minimal increases in the tax levy for the WCSD taxpayers.

Thank you WCSD Community!