

EDWARDS-KNOX CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT *2019-20 Proposed Budget*



Message from the Superintendent:

April 25, 2019

Dear Residents:

The Annual Budget Hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium. At this time, I will provide a presentation of the proposed budget.

The budget we will present to our school community represents the many vital programs, services, and high-quality academic opportunities we provide to our students. Each year, we strive to develop a budget that balances programmatic excellence with fiscal prudence, and this year is no exception. We believe the proposed budget maintains our high standard of programming for students, while keeping our taxpayers in mind.

The 2019-20 proposed budget of \$16,111,022 includes an increase in spending of \$449,620. Due to slight increases in state aid, strategic reductions, a reduction in state retirement system contribution rates, and utilization of reserve funds, we are able to meet these expenses while remaining below our tax cap of 2.54%. The proposed budget includes a requested tax levy increase of 1.50%, bringing the total tax levy to \$1,985,312. Recognizing the financial stress of any tax increase, we strived to remain below the cap while maintaining a sound educational program for our children.

In order to continue with our bus fleet plan, we are requesting authorization to bond for the purchase of two buses. We will also be purchasing one bus with cash, included in our general budget. Currently, we strive to rotate our buses every seven years. The seven-year cycle for a bus has been chosen for two essential reasons: the trade value at the end of seven years is approximately \$20,000 per bus and the powertrain warranty on each bus is seven years. We find that the seven-year life cycle for a bus, when combined with our transportation aid of approximately 90%, to be the most cost effective, long-term fleet plan.

The budget vote will be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 from 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m in the gymnasium. In addition to the budget and the bus proposition, there are two seats to be filled on the Board of Education. The two candidates running for these seats are Todd Wells and Stacia Kroniser.

In order to be eligible to vote, the following qualifications must be met:

1. 18 years of age
2. A citizen of the United States
3. A resident of the Edwards-Knox Central School District for 30 days.

Attached you will find the budget component summary sheet for your review. Anyone wishing to receive a complete itemized budget, the Tax Exemption Impact Report, the Property Tax Report Card, Salary Disclosure Notice and/or the NYS District Report Card can contact the district office or visit the school's website at www.ekcsk12.org and to go to "District Budget Items."

If you have any questions prior to the Budget Hearing, please contact my office at 315.562.8130, ext. 25511.

Sincerely,

Erin E. Woods
Erin E. Woods
Superintendent

**Informational
Budget Hearing**
Tuesday, May 14, 2019
6:30 p.m.
Auditorium

Budget Vote!
Tuesday, May 21, 2019
12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
School Gymnasium

Budget Highlights

- 2019-20 proposed spending plan total:
\$16,111,022
- Tax Increase: **1.50%**
- Total Tax Levy:
\$1,985,312



Edwards-Knox Central School AGENDA

For Special Budget Hearing

**May 14, 2019
6:30 p.m.**

Call to Order:
Reginald LaPoint
President, Board of Education

Availability of the notice:
Brandi Graham, District Clerk

**Permanent Chairperson of meeting
assumes Chair** (Appointed by Board)

Announcement of the Voting Inspectors
(Appointed by Board)

**Presentation of proposed 2019-2020
budget and ballots/proposition**

Adjournment

VOTER QUALIFICATIONS

- ✓ A person must be a citizen of the United States
- ✓ At least 18 years of age
- ✓ A resident of the Edwards-Knox school district at least 30 days preceding the election



YOU WILL VOTE ON...

Proposition 1: 2019-20 Budget

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Edwards-Knox Central School District in the State of New York, County of St. Lawrence, be authorized to expend the sum set forth in the total amount of \$16,111,022, during the school year 2019-2020 and to levy the necessary tax thereafter.

Proposition 2: Bus Purchases

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Edwards-Knox Central School District, New York, is hereby authorized to purchase and finance two (2) school buses at an estimated cost not to exceed \$240,000, including necessary furnishings, fixtures and equipment and all other costs incidental thereto and expend a total sum not to exceed \$240,000, which is estimated to be

the total maximum cost thereof, and pay for such buses by the levy of a tax which is hereby voted for in the amount of \$240,000, subject to the applicable amount of State Aid which may be received for such purposes, which tax shall be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education and in anticipation of the collection of such tax, bonds and notes of the District are hereby authorized to be issued at one time, or from time to time, in the principal amount not to exceed \$240,000, and a tax is hereby voted to pay the principal and interest on said obligations when due.

Election of two members to the Board of Education

	2018 Tax Year	Township	2019 Tax Year	Difference
Tax Levy	\$ 1,955,972		\$ 1,985,312	\$ 29,340
Tax Rate per \$1,000 Assessed Value*	\$ 10.87	Edwards	\$ 11.03	\$ 0.16
	\$ 13.90	Russell	\$ 14.11	\$ 0.21
Est. Taxes for \$50,000 Property*	\$ 543.47	Edwards	\$ 551.50	\$ 8.03
	\$ 694.86	Russell	\$ 705.50	\$ 10.64
Less STAR exemption**		Edwards	\$ 314.00	
		Russell	\$ 303.00	
Est. Net Taxes after STAR***		Edwards	\$ 237.50	
		Russell	\$ 402.50	

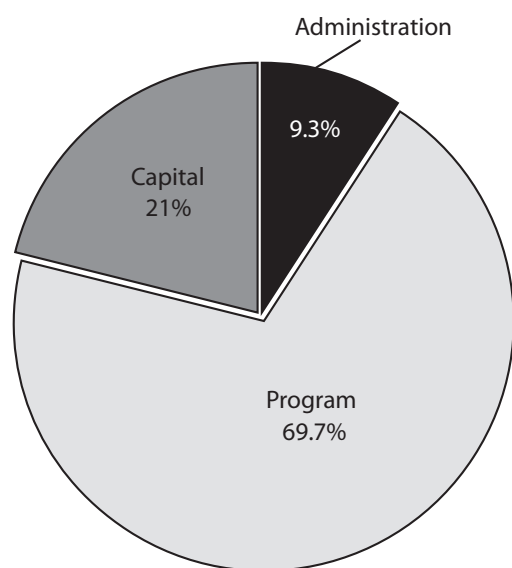
**Based on last assessment roll.*

***STAR Exemption savings amount varies by township.*

****Estimated Net Taxes on a property assessed at \$50,000*

For information on the NYS STAR program, please visit the NYS Department of Taxation and Finance page at <https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/default.htm>.

2019-20 Budget Summary



Administrative Component

These expenditures provide for the overall general support and management activities, including office and administrative costs; salaries and benefits for Administration; data processing; legal and auditing services; and school board expenses.

Program Component

These expenditures provide funding for the instruction and support services for all students. This includes Teacher salaries and Benefits, instructional costs, and transportation operating costs.

Capital Component

The Capital component provides funding for facility costs of building, garage, and property. This also includes all utilities, debt service, and capital projects.

Total Budget: \$16,111,022



Budget Appropriations

Administrative Component	2018-19 Current Budget	2019-20 Projected Budget
Board of Education	\$14,106	\$17,970
Central Administration	\$161,001	\$170,952
Finance	\$187,303	\$189,754
Legal Staff	\$15,900	\$15,900
Central Services	\$84,012	\$92,092
Special Items	\$422,410	\$429,590
Instructional Administrative	\$279,802	\$290,003
In-Service Education	\$4,500	\$4,500
Administrative Benefits	\$282,500	\$291,525
Subtotal	\$1,451,534	\$1,502,285

Program Component	2018-19 Current Budget	2019-20 Projected Budget
Teaching Regular School	\$2,641,681	\$2,674,989
Special Education	\$1,703,688	\$1,832,238
Occupational Education	\$602,881	\$521,651
Special Schools	\$36,500	\$33,000
Instructional Media	\$461,851	\$464,247
Pupil Services	\$239,545	\$238,100
Health Services	\$223,775	\$257,280
Co-Curricular Activities	\$149,791	\$163,061
Pupil Transportation	\$915,474	\$1,047,833
Bus Garage Building	\$17,475	\$20,475
Community Service	\$4000	\$0
Program Benefits	\$3,819,013	\$3,974,591
Subtotal	\$10,815,674	\$11,227,465

Capital Component	2018-19 Current Budget	2019-20 Projected Budget
Central Services - Operations	\$740,714	\$745,560
Central Services - Maintenance	\$218,711	\$185,560
Central Service Benefits	\$268,200	\$275,100
Debt Service	\$1,966,569	\$1,975,052
Interfund Transfers	\$200,000	\$200,000
Subtotal	\$3,394,194	\$3,381,272
Total Expenditures	\$15,661,402	\$16,111,022

Estimated Revenue		
	2018-2019	2019-2020
State Aid Estimate	\$12,399,663	\$12,690,341
Other Revenues	\$100,463	\$185,369
Reserves Appropriated	\$374,304	\$350,000
Fund Balance Appropriated	\$831,000	\$900,000
Tax Levy	\$1,955,972	\$1,985,312
TOTAL REVENUE	\$15,661,402	\$16,111,022



BOARD OF EDUCATION SEATS

There are two five-year term seats up for vote with two people running for the school board. The five-year term will be from July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2024.

◆ Board of Education Candidates ◆

Board of Education Candidate Profile: Todd Wells, RPh, PharmD

Seeking: Five-year Expired Seat

Purpose for wanting to be on the Board of Education:

As members of the Edwards-Knox Central School District community since the early 1990's, my wife Jessica and I are deeply rooted and invested in the education and success of the students of the district. We currently have 3 children in the Edwards-Knox School District, Brody and Bryce (Grade 4), Ryker (Grade 1), and our daughter Rylan (age 3) who will be beginning Pre-Kindergarten in the fall of 2019.



I have very fond memories of my time as a student at Edwards-Knox, and I would like my children, as well as all of the children of the district, to have the same great experience and education my wife and I were afforded.

I was also fortunate enough to see firsthand how a parent and community member can have a positive impact as a member of the Board of Education, as my father, Kevin, served on the Edwards-Knox Board for 14 years, as well as serving on the BOCES Board for 9 years.

After spending six years living in Albany, NY while attending college, I have a great appreciation for our small community and the impact an involved and positive role model can have on our students.

I very much look forward to the opportunity to service our community and school district in this endeavor as a member of the Board of Education.

Volunteer or Organization Affiliations:

- Current member of the St. Lawrence County Board of Health since September 2014

Work/Education History:

- Edwards-Knox Central School Class of 2002 Graduate and Salutatorian
- Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Doctor of Pharmacy Graduate May 2008
- Kinney Drugs, Inc., Pharmacy Student May 2003-May 2005
- Kinney Drugs, Inc., Pharmacy Intern May 2005-July 2008
- Kinney Drugs, Inc., Staff Pharmacist July 2008-August 2011
- Kinney Drugs, Inc., Supervising Pharmacist August 2011-Present

Board of Education Candidate Profile: Stacia Kroniser

Seeking: Five-year Expired Seat

Purpose for wanting to be on the Board of Education:

I have truly enjoyed my time on the Board and still believe I have a lot to offer our district and if you'll have me, I'd like to continue working to better our district and to help ensure its future. Being on the Board has never been about holding a title for me; it is about trying to ensure our school district will continue to be here for many more generations, to be a voice for the community, staff and students. I am well aware that not all decisions made are appreciated by everyone, but I can assure you that they are not made without being well informed and thoroughly thought out. I have lived in this district all of my life and am a fifth generation land owner. This community and this school district means the world to me and I am willing to fight for them even if at times that means standing alone.



Volunteer or Organization Affiliations:

I have volunteered my time to many community groups throughout the years. For three years I was the Tee-Ball Coach in Edwards and I also served on the Edwards Recreation Board to help put in a playground and ice skating rink over by the Lion's Field. I have also spent a few years volunteering as an officer on the Edwards-Knox After Grad and was the founder and leader of the Edwards-Knox Watch Group. In an effort to try and keep our community informed I attended, video taped and posted the Board Meetings. Additionally, I addressed concerns, suggestions and looked into spending.

Most recently I have spent the last 5 years on the Board of Education. It hasn't always been easy and sometimes I have even wondered if it was all worth it, but you know what IT IS. To be part of something bigger than all of us, to see and feel the pride that emanates from our staff, students and communities. That's when you know its worth it, that's what fuels you on the bad days, because you want to keep fostering the unity; the pride.

Work / Education History:

I am an Edwards-Knox Graduate, as are my children. I received a certificate from Southwest Tech and for the last 18 years I have worked at Viking Cives USA in Harrisville. I own and operate my own small business "Kroniser's Digital Photography"; as my passion has always been in capturing the moment and freezing time.

EDWARDS-KNOX BOARD OF EDUCATION

Reginald LaPoint, *President*

Stacia Kroniser, *Vice-Pres.*

Penny Allen

Lynn Coller

Jennifer Hotaling

Derek LaPoint

Tom O'Brien

Bobbie Trudeau

Michael White

The Edwards-Knox District Board of Education is the official policy-making body of the school district.

The role of the E-KCS Board includes:

- reviewing, changing, or establishing district policy.
- setting district goals
- acting upon all personnel and contractual matters.
- overseeing and reviewing all financial matters, including, but not limited to, budget preparation, warrants, and bonding.

No one person, or group of persons, acts in the name of the Board. When an item of business comes before the Board in the form of a motion, it is necessary that a majority of votes be cast in favor of the motion for the Board to act. Members of the Board are without authority to act independently as individual Board members, therefore answers must be deferred pending consideration by the full Board.

REMINDER:

Informational Budget Hearing

Tuesday, May 14, 2019

6:30 p.m.

Auditorium



Ms. Erin E. Woods

Superintendent of Schools

(315)562-8130

Fax: (315)562-2477

Mrs. Amy Sykes

7-12 Principal

(315)562-8130

Fax: (315)562-2477

Ms. Lura Hughes

Elementary Principal

(315)562-8130

Fax: (315)562-2477

Budget Vote! ***Tuesday, May 21, 2019***

12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

School Gymnasium

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Reginald LaPoint, *President*

Stacia Kroniser, *Vice-Pres.*

Penny Allen

Lynn Collier

Jennifer Hotaling

Derek LaPoint

Tom O'Brien

Bobbie Trudeau

Michael White

Brandi Graham, Clerk

Edwards-Knox Central School District

2512 County Route 24

Hermon, New York 13652

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