



School Gram



Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Union Free School District

May 2015

BUDGET VOTE & BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION

**7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Tuesday,
May 19, 2015**

Hoover Middle School,
249 Thorncliff Road
(use the Sheridan Drive
entrance and Door 14)

Voter Qualifications

- Registered to vote by five days prior to May 19, 2015
- U.S. citizen, 18 years of age or older
- Resident of the district for 30 days prior to the vote
- Proof of citizenship, age, and residency required

You do not have to register if you are already registered with the Erie County Board of Elections or have voted within the past four years

Public Hearing

**6:30 p.m.
Tuesday,
May 12, 2015**

Kenmore West High School, 33 Highland Parkway (East Cafeteria)

Message from the Superintendent

I am pleased to present the proposed 2015-16 Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda UFSD budget to our community. The budget maintains our academic, extracurricular, and athletic programming despite the enormous challenges that all school districts in New York State continue to face.

When the budget was crafted, many factors were considered. First and foremost is our responsibility to support teaching and learning. Carefully considered in all budget decisions were our District mission statement and our Board and District goals. In addition, the District is ever so mindful of the New York State Reform Agenda and NYSED mandates, our student achievement data, the degree of impact on students and core programs for college and career readiness, the impact each expenditure or reduction has on the number and needs of students, and of course the impact on our community and taxes. The development of the 2015-16 budget was a true team effort, and remained focused on the Board of Education's two goals: to ensure that all students reach mastery in literacy and numeracy, and to achieve financial and capital sustainability.

The proposed \$155,195,885 budget represents a 2.23% increase over last year, which is below the average of the previous 16 years' budgets. In addition



**Dawn Mirand,
Superintendent**

to voting on the budget and the annual bus replacement purchase, residents will have the opportunity to vote on reduced student transportation eligibility limits that will take effect in September 2016, if approved. Even though there were increases in health insurance costs, a reduced fund balance and reserve allocation, and state aid levels that are below what they were seven years ago, the District worked hard to keep the total budget and tax levy increase at a minimum and within the tax levy limit.

This has been another challenging year for school districts across New York State. There was a great deal of uncertainty over state aid allocations and the future of the Gap Elimination Adjustment, which has cost our district approximately \$38 million over the past five years. Constraints remain in the formulas that determine how our state aid is allocated. In the end, the District saw a modest increase in state aid, though the formulas remain the same and the GEA remains law. Thank you to all in our wonderful community who readily advocated and supported our lobbying efforts for fairer and more equitable school funding.

More information on the budget may be found at www.ktufsd.org/budget. We encourage all residents to participate in this important vote. Thank you for your continued support of Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda schools.

PROPOSITION NO. 1: 2015-16 BUDGET

RESOLVED, That the basic budget of \$155,195,885 for the Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Union Free School District for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2016 as presented by the Board of Education, is hereby approved and adopted and the required funds therefore are hereby appropriated and the necessary real property taxes required shall be raised by a tax on the taxable property in the District to be levied and collected as required by law.

Yes No

PROPOSITION NO. 2: BUS PURCHASE

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Union Free School District, in the County of Erie, New York (the "District"), is hereby authorized to purchase various school buses and similar vehicles (and related equipment) for use in the transportation program of the District, and to expend therefor, including for preliminary and incidental costs relating thereto and to the financing thereof, an amount not to exceed the estimated maximum cost of \$1,600,208 and that the sum of \$1,600,208 (or so much thereof as may be necessary, plus an amount necessary for the payment of interest thereon) shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of the District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law, and, in anticipation of such tax, bonds or other obligations (including, without limitation, obligations arising under leases, lease/purchase contracts or installment purchase contracts having a term of not more than five years) of the District shall be issued or entered into in accordance with applicable provisions of New York State law.

Yes No

PROPOSITION NO. 3: STUDENT TRANSPORTATION ELIGIBILITY LIMITS

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Union Free School District, in the County of Erie, New York (the "District"), is authorized to modify student transportation eligibility limits beginning in the 2016-2017 school year as follows:

- Kindergarten through Grade 4 students: eligibility for bus transportation is 0.5 miles or greater;
- Grade 5 through Grade 7 students: eligibility for bus transportation is 0.75 miles or greater; and
- Grade 8 through Grade 12 students: eligibility for bus transportation is 1.0 miles or greater.

Yes No

2015-16 Budget Information

Item	Amount	Item	Amount
Budget	\$155,195,885	Tax Rate	\$47.42
Budget Increase	\$3,384,043	Tax Rate Increase	\$1.15
Budget-to-Budget % Increase	2.23%	Tax Rate % Increase	2.48%
Tax Levy	\$79,236,785	Fund Balance & Reserve Use	\$7,475,000
Tax Levy Increase	\$1,915,273	Increase on \$100K Full Market Value House	\$50
Tax Levy % Increase	2.48%		

Revenue & Expenditures

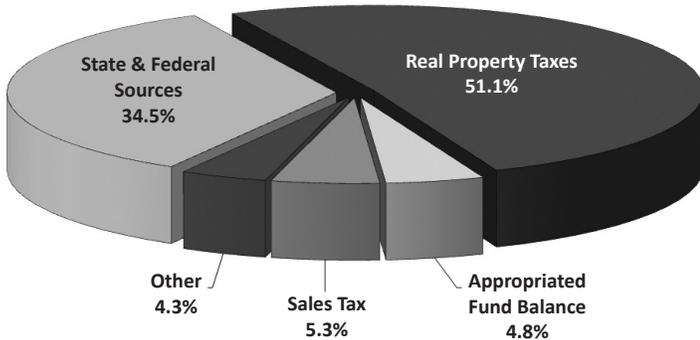
2015-16 Revenue Comparison			
	2014-15 Budget	2015-16 Proposed	2015-16 Increase
State & Federal Sources	\$49,798,930	\$53,644,000	\$3,845,070
Real Property Taxes	\$77,321,512	\$79,236,785	\$1,915,273
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$9,825,000	\$7,475,000	-\$2,350,000
Sales Tax	\$8,200,000	\$8,200,000	\$0
Other	\$6,666,400	\$6,640,100	-\$26,300
Total Revenue	\$151,811,842	\$155,195,885	\$3,384,043

Budget-to-Budget Percentage Increase: 2.23%

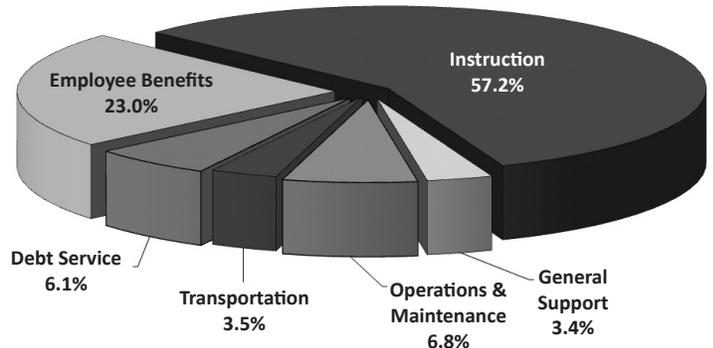
2015-16 Expenditure Comparison			
	2014-15 Budget	2015-16 Proposed	2015-16 Increase
General Support	\$4,955,071	\$5,185,263	\$230,192
Operations & Maint.	\$10,287,995	\$10,596,673	\$308,678
Instruction	\$85,829,436	\$88,826,002	\$2,996,566
Transportation	\$5,158,748	\$5,310,278	\$151,530
Employee Benefits	\$36,821,768	\$35,745,596	-\$1,076,172
Debt Service	\$8,758,824	\$9,532,073	\$773,249
Total Expenditures	\$151,811,842	\$155,195,885	\$3,384,043

Budget-to-Budget Percentage Increase: 2.23%

2015-16 Revenue Budget: \$155,195,885



2015-16 Proposed Expenditures by Function: \$155,195,885



Propositions

**Proposition 1:
2015-16
Budget
(\$155,195,885)**

Proposition 2: Bus Purchase

Standard Replacement Cycle:

- Six 65-passenger buses
- Four 30-passenger buses

\$915,596

District Reorganization Needs

- Six 65-passenger buses

\$684,612

Total Proposition: \$1,600,208

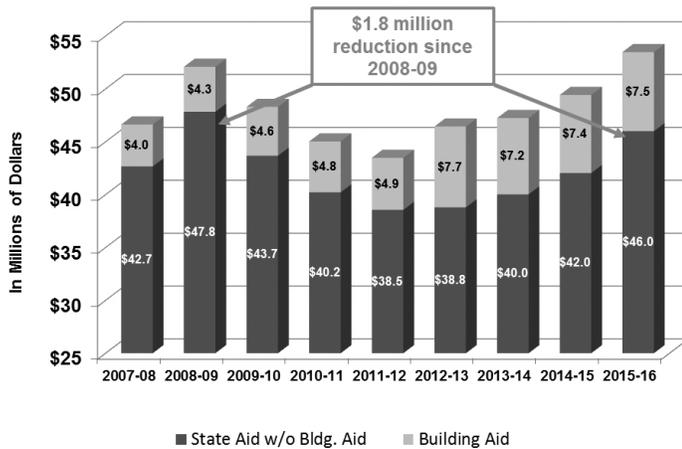
*State Transportation Aid: Approximately 70%
Payments would begin in 2016-17*

**Proposition 3:
Student
Transportation
Eligibility Limits
(Beginning in 2016-17):**

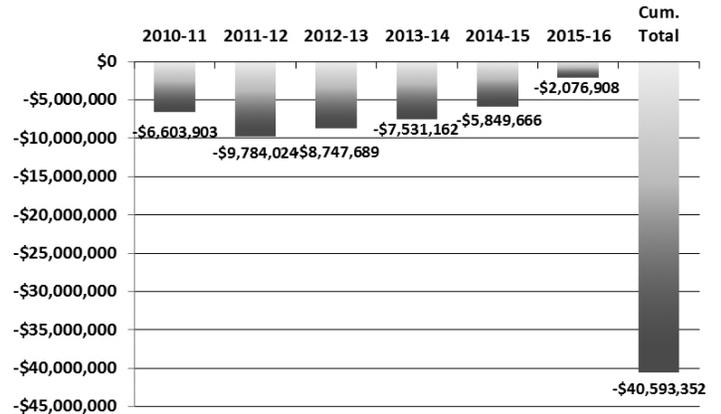
K-4: 0.5 miles
5-7: 0.75 miles
8-12: 1.0 miles

2015-16 Budget Information

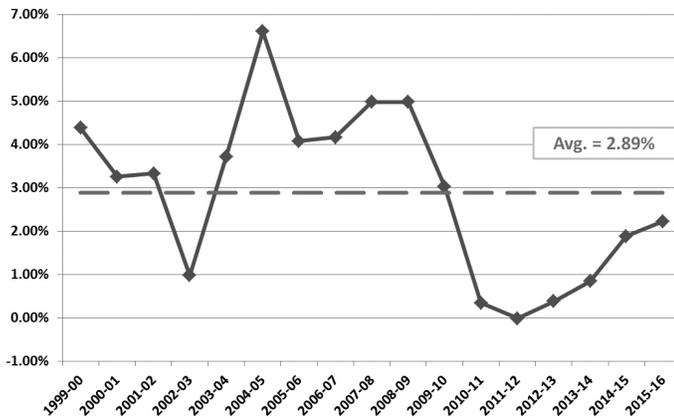
Comparison of State Aid Designated for the Ken-Ton UFSD



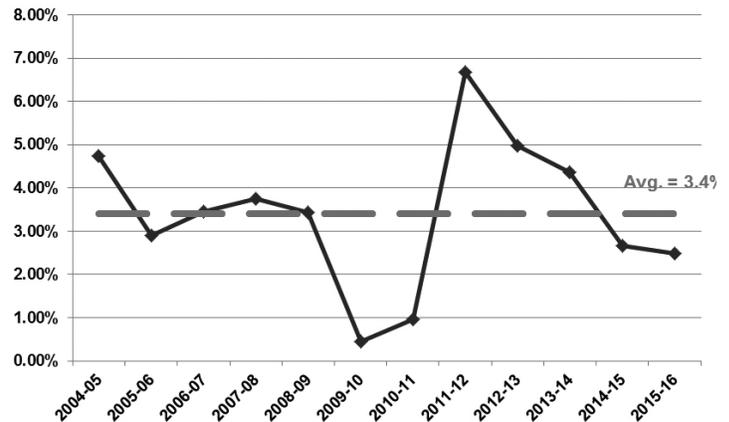
Impact of Gap Elimination Adjustment on the Ken-Ton UFSD



Historical Comparison of Ken-Ton UFSD Budget Increases



Historical Comparison of Ken-Ton UFSD Tax Rate Increases



Absentee Ballot Information

Contact the District Clerk at 874-8400 ext. 20342 for an absentee ballot application. Those who already receive absentee ballots do not need to apply. Applications must be received no later than seven days prior to May 19, 2015. Absentee ballots must arrive no later than 5 p.m. on May 19, 2015.

Candidates for the Board of Education

There is one three-year term open on the Board of Education beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2018. Voters will have the opportunity to elect the candidate who receives the largest number of votes during the May 19, 2015 Budget Vote and Board of Education election. Due to time constraints, information about the official May 19, 2015 candidates will be posted to the district website and accessible from the district homepage at www.ktufsd.org.

For more information, visit www.ktufsd.org/budget

Budget Vote & Board of Education Election

Vote Tuesday, May 19, 2015 • 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. • Hoover Middle School (249 Thorncliff Road)



KENMORE-TOWN OF TONAWANDA UFSD
1500 COLVIN BLVD.
BUFFALO, NY 14223-1196

NON PROFIT
 ORGANIZATION
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 BUFFALO, NY
 PERMIT #4321

Board of Education

Bob Dana, President
 Stephen Brooks, Vice President
 Todd Potter, Trustee
 Annemarie Gibson, Trustee
 Jill O'Malley, Trustee

Dawn Mirand,
 Superintendent

Postal Resident

Regularly scheduled Board meetings are open to the public and usually begin at 6:30 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Call 874-8400 ext. 20342 to confirm time and location.



Budget Vote & Board of Education Election: Tuesday, May 19, 2015 from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Hoover Middle School

Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda UFSD Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2014-15 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2015-16 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2015-16 School Year
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$151,811,842	\$155,195,885	\$153,780,612
Increase (Decrease) for the 2015-16 School Year		\$3,384,043	\$1,968,770
Percentage Increase (Decrease) in each Proposed Budget		2.23%	1.30%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.62%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$77,321,512	\$79,236,785	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable	\$0	\$0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Levy	\$0	\$0	
E. Total School Year Tax Levy (A+B+C+D)	\$77,321,512	\$79,236,785	\$77,321,512
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$798,333	\$1,338,318	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Exclusions	\$76,523,179	\$77,898,467	
H. Proposed School Year Tax Levy for School Purposes, Excluding Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E-B-F+D)	\$76,523,179	\$77,898,467	
Difference: (G-H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval)	\$0	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$14,925,288	\$15,230,382	\$15,070,143
Program Component	\$115,037,008	\$117,112,291	\$116,166,455
Capital Component	\$21,849,546	\$22,853,212	\$22,544,014

Statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2015-16 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law:

The Board of Education will review the expenditure budget and make decisions on those items to be included based on Education Law Section 2023. The tax levy would have to be reduced \$1,915,273 through cuts to programs and staff (including non-contingent items that would have to be removed in accordance with New York State Law) and additional use of fund balance and reserves.

List of Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budget Amount:	Description	Amount

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2015-16 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings¹	\$619

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2015-16 by the qualified voters of the Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda UFSD, Erie County, New York, will be held at the Herbert Hoover Middle School in said district on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 between the hours of 7:00 AM and 9:00 PM, prevailing time, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

Call the District Clerk's office with questions at 874-8400 Ext. 20342

¹ The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.