



School Gram

MAY 2016 BUDGET EDITION

Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Union Free School District

BUDGET VOTE & BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION

**7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Tuesday,
May 17, 2016**

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

Voter Qualifications

- Registered to vote by five days prior to May 17, 2016
- 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
- Absentee ballots must arrive no later than 5 p.m. on May 17, 2016

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

Message from the Superintendent & Board President

The proposed 2016-17 Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda UFSD budget has been adopted by the Board of Education on April 12, 2016. We are pleased to present the budget to our community. The budget maintains our academic programs including the core subject areas in addition to our superb art, music, physical education, extracurricular and athletic programs. When the budget was crafted, many factors were considered. First and foremost was our responsibility to support teaching and learning in the classroom. Students were first in every decision.

The budget reflects savings from the Scenario I consolidation transition that was approved in April 2014. The District will realize greater efficiencies by decreasing from 12 to 9 school buildings beginning in September. The \$157,110,733 proposed 2016-17 budget represents an increase in spending of only 1.23% compared to an 18-year average of 2.8% and typical pre-recession budget-to-budget increases of 3-5%.

The New York State Budget, which was adopted on April 1, 2016, included full restoration of the Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA), which has resulted in the loss of more than \$40 million total from Ken-Ton schools since 2010. It is important to note that the District will only receive a 0.62% increase in Foundation Aid, which is our primary source of state aid. Ken-Ton is finally receiving more state aid than in 2008-09 when the recession and state budget crisis began; however, increases haven't come close to keeping pace with costs that can be expected to increase every year such as health insurance, retirement contributions and contractual salary increases.

As most know, the closure of the Huntley plant



**Dawn F. Mirand,
Superintendent**



**Jill O'Malley,
Board President**

resulted in a loss of a bit over \$3 million in revenue. The closure of the Huntley plant affected the tax cap calculation, which is 4.64%. The budget includes 3.98% levy increase, which is under the tax cap and needed to avoid significant cuts to student programs.

In June, the District will apply for money available through a New York State fund created to support communities like Ken-Ton that have suffered significant losses in tax revenue because of the closure of power plants like Huntley. It is not revenue that can be counted on for the 2016-17 budget since it will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. However, we are very hopeful that we will receive this funding, which will be passed back to the taxpayers by reducing the tax levy increase to 3.5% if successful. The District is very grateful for all those who fought so hard for the fund to be established.

In addition to voting on the budget and the annual bus replacement purchase, residents will have the opportunity to vote on the creation of a Capital Project Reserve Fund. This involves no money at this time. Proposition 3 is asking voter permission to open a new account. The account would eventually support the local cost of a future capital project the same way the previous account supported the last two Capital Projects. The current fund account is expiring and permission to open a new one is needed. No money would be set aside for this fund; that would only be done incrementally over a period of years as the budget allows.

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 our Ken-Ton schools.

Candidates for the Board of Education

There are two three-year terms open on the Board of Education that will begin July 1, 2016 and end June 30, 2019. There is also the remainder of one three-year term that will begin on May 18, 2016 and end June 30, 2017. Voters will have the opportunity to elect the three candidates who receive the largest number of votes during the May 17, 2016 Budget Vote and Board of Education election. Due to time constraints, information about the official May 17, 2016 candidates will be posted to the District website and accessible from the District homepage at www.ktufsd.org.

Important Message for All Ken-Ton School District Families:

Visit www.ktufsd.org/transition for up-to-date information on the Scenario I consolidation transition, which takes effect in 2016-17. Read frequently asked questions, find out about school visitation/orientation opportunities, and use the 2016-17 School Locator to identify your assigned schools of residence.

2016-17 Budget Information

Item	Amount	Item	Amount
Budget	\$157,110,733	Tax Rate	\$49.33
Budget Increase	\$1,914,848	Tax Rate Increase	\$1.89
Budget-to-Budget % Increase	1.23%	Tax Rate % Increase	3.98%
Tax Levy	\$82,390,409	Fund Balance & Reserve Use	\$6,575,000
Tax Levy Increase	\$3,153,624	Increase on \$100K Full Market Value House	\$82
Tax Levy % Increase	3.98%		

2016-17 Revenue Comparison

	2015-16 Budget	2016-17 Proposed	2016-17 Increase
State & Federal Sources	\$53,644,000	\$56,377,762	\$2,733,762
Real Property Taxes	\$79,236,785	\$82,390,409	\$3,153,624
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$7,475,000	\$6,575,000	-\$900,000
Sales Tax	\$8,200,000	\$8,200,000	\$0
Other	\$6,640,100	\$3,567,562	-\$3,072,538
Total Revenue	\$155,195,885	\$157,110,733	\$1,914,848

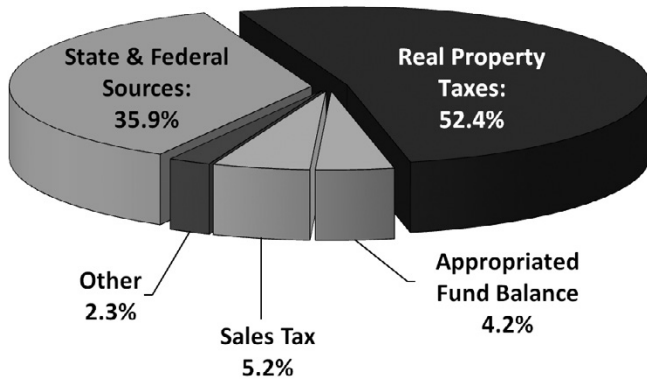
Budget-to-Budget Percentage Increase: 1.23%

2016-17 Expenditure Comparison

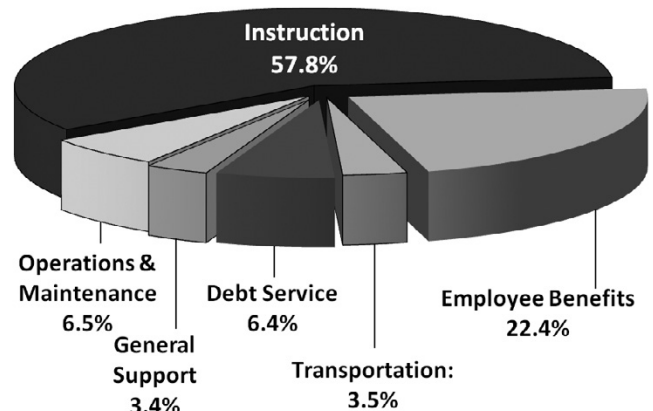
	2015-16 Budget	2016-17 Proposed	2016-17 Increase
General Support	\$5,185,263	\$5,341,966	\$156,703
Operations & Maint.	\$10,596,673	\$10,170,361	-\$426,312
Instruction	\$88,826,002	\$90,881,961	\$2,055,959
Transportation	\$5,310,278	\$5,442,769	\$132,491
Employee Benefits	\$35,745,596	\$35,215,923	-\$529,673
Debt Service	\$9,532,073	\$10,057,753	\$525,680
Total Expenditures	\$155,195,885	\$157,110,733	\$1,914,848

Budget-to-Budget Percentage Increase: 1.23%

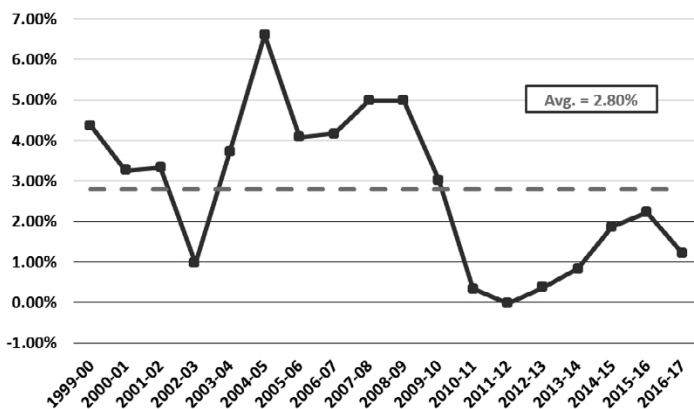
2016-17 Revenue Budget: \$157,110,733



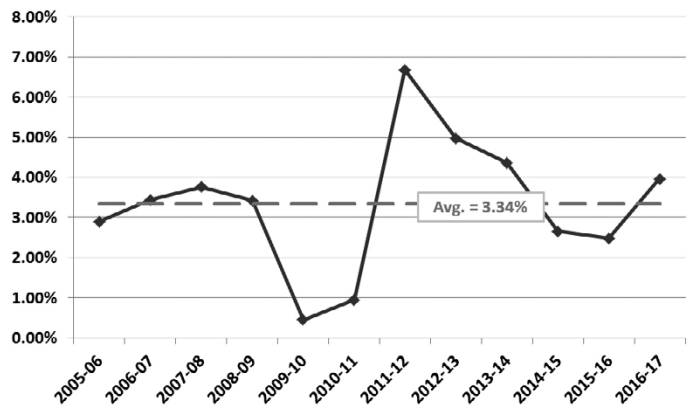
2016-17 Proposed Expenditures by Function: \$157,110,733



Historical Comparison of Ken-Ton UFSD Budget Increases



Historical Comparison of Ken-Ton UFSD Tax Rate Increases



2016-17 Propositions

Proposition 1: 2016-17 Budget (\$157,110,733)

Proposition 2: Bus Purchase

Standard Replacement Cycle:

• 10 65-passenger buses \$1,149,680

District Consolidation Needs

• 3 65-passenger buses \$342,057

Total Proposition: \$1,491,737

State Transportation Aid: Approximately 70%
District Share: Approximately \$447,521

Proposition 3: Capital Improvements Reserve Fund

Authorizes the creation of a reserve fund. Will be funded in the future.

Replaces the previous expiring capital reserve fund.

Proposition 4: Creates ex officio Board of Education student position

Sample Ballot

PROPOSITION 1: 2016-17 BUDGET

RESOLVED, That the basic budget of \$157,110,733 for the Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Union Free School District for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017 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 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 the following vehicles (and related equipment) for use in the transportation program of the District: eight (8) 65-passenger school buses at an estimated maximum cost of \$114,621 each, two (2) 65-passenger school buses at an estimated maximum cost of \$116,356 each, three (3) 65-passenger school buses at an estimated maximum cost of \$114,019 each, for an aggregate maximum cost of \$1,491,738, 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 \$1,491,738 and that the sum of \$1,491,738 (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 3: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS RESERVE FUND

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Union Free School District is hereby authorized to establish a capital reserve fund pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law of the State of New York (the "Fund"); that the Fund shall be known as the "Capital Improvements Reserve Fund" of the District; that the Fund shall be established for the purpose of financing, in whole or in part, the District's activities in acquiring, constructing, reconstructing, adding to, renovating, altering and improving District buildings, facilities, grounds and real property, including the acquisition of original furnishings, equipment, machinery and apparatus required in connection therewith; that the ultimate amount of such Fund shall be not greater than fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) plus interest earned thereon; that the probable term of such Fund shall be not be longer than ten (10) years but such Fund shall continue in existence for its stated purpose until liquidated in accordance with the Education Law; and that the permissible sources from which the Board is authorized to appropriate monies to such Fund from time to time shall be (a) current and future unappropriated fund balances from the General Fund of the District, (b) State aid received as reimbursement for expenditures by the District in connection with District capital improvements (whether or not financed in whole or in part from such Fund), (c) the proceeds from the sale of unneeded District real or personal property and (d) such other sources as the Board or the voters of the District may direct.

[] Yes [] No

PROPOSITION 4: EX OFFICIO STUDENT MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Union Free School District is hereby authorized to have a student attending a high school of the District serve as an ex officio student member of the Board of Education; such ex officio student member being entitled to sit with Board of Education members at all public meetings of the Board of Education and participate in all Board of Education hearings and meetings, but not vote, attend executive session, and/or be entitled to receive compensation of any form for participating at Board of Education meetings; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Union Free School District is authorized to establish a process for selection of such ex officio student member of the Board of Education pursuant to Education Law §1702.

[] Yes [] No



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

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 PERMIT #4321

Board of Education
 Jill O'Malley, President
 Andrew Gianni, Vice President
 Bob Dana, Trustee
 Todd Potter, Trustee
 Christopher Pashler, Trustee

Dawn Mirand,
 Superintendent

Residential Customer

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 17, 2016 from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Hoover Middle School

Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda UFSD Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2015-16 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2016-17 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2016-17 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$155,195,885	\$157,110,733	\$154,457,109
Increase/Decrease for the 2016-17 School Year		\$1,914,848	-\$738,776
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		1.23%	-0.48%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		0.12%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount, Net of Reserve	\$79,236,785	\$82,390,409	
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 Current Year Levy	\$0	\$0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$79,236,785	\$82,390,409	\$79,236,785
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$1,338,318	\$1,637,705	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$77,898,467	\$80,752,704	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E - B - F + D)	\$77,898,467	\$80,752,704	
Difference: G - H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)	\$0	\$0	
Administrative Component	\$15,230,382	\$15,137,875	\$14,859,592
Program Component	\$117,112,292	\$119,302,047	\$117,431,208
Capital Component	\$22,853,212	\$22,670,811	\$22,166,309

Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2016-17 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 \$3,153,624 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 Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)	Description	Amount
	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2016-17 School Year	
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹		\$631

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2016-2017 by the qualified voters of the Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Union Free School District, Erie County, New York, will be held at Herbert Hoover Middle School in said district on Tuesday, May 17, 2016 between the hours of 7:00 AM and 9:00 PM, prevailing time in the Herbert Hoover Middle School, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

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