

Meet the Board of Education Candidates

Tom Taylor

My wife, Carole, and I have lived in the Jamesville-DeWitt School District since 1980. Our three children My write, Carole, and I have lived in the Jamesville-DeWitt School District since 1980. Our three child are all graduates of Jamesville-DeWitt. I am a graduate of Case Western Reserve University with a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering. I have retired from Carrier Transicold after 43 years of employment in the fields of engineering, manufacturing and sales. Through my work, I have been involved with budgeting, project design and development, contract negotiation, procurement and maintenance activities. First elected to the Board of Education in 2002, I have been actively involved with the Facilities

Committee, the District Steering Committee and other ad hoc committees. In addition, I have served as Vice President and then President for two years each. I currently serve on the Board of Directors of the Onondaga Madison School Boards Association and am on the Central New York School Board Association

Onondaga Madison School Boards Association and am on the Central New York School Board Association in Finance Committee. I was active in the negotiations with the county regarding continuation of a portion of the county sales tax revenue to local school districts.

I was actively involved with the Jamesville-DeWitt All Sports Booster Club, serving as co-treasurer for two years and co-president for two years. I am active in my church, was a Little League coach and involved in a variety of other committees, such as Operation Graduation and Community Connections.

I recognize that the issues facing our district in the coming years are very complex. As we have seen, the Trecognize that the issues racing our district in the coming years are very compilex. As we have seen, in reform agenda driven by Race to the Top has had a large and important impact on our district, bringing us the Common Core as well as the annual testing which has been so much a part of the news on a statewide level. The "2"Ver Property Tax Cap legislation continues to challenge the financial planning for the district and will be complicated by new legislation offering taxpayers a tax rebate if certain consolidation of services are implemented and can be shown to reduce expenses from prior year. In spite of these challenges, our residents expect that our district will remain financially strong and continue to offer the outstanding programs and teaching to pr programs and teaching to prepare students for the future. Students will continue to be provided a rewarding and challenging educational experience. I believe I work in a positive manner with other Board members and administrators and will continue to try to improve the District. I am willing to devote my knowledge, background, experience and passion for that objective.

Susan Petrosillo

Wow! Has it been three years already? I am delighted to run for JD School Board again. It took some time to figure it all out, but I can now say that I have a firm grasp on JD operations, budget creation, policy setting, the education industry and the wants/needs of the public we represent.

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER Jamesville-DeWitt Schools **DEWITT, NY 13214**

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POSTAL CUSTOMER **DEWITT, NY 13214** CARRIER ROUTE PRESORT

Heading into a second term I will continue my effort to be a Board member with an ear and voice for the elementary school children while remaining cognizant of the needs to balance education improvements and

eignemany senior climiten white reliaming cognizant of the necess to banance cumanitant programming across the district.

Trying to balance improvements and maintenance isn't easy year over year.

Costs rise faster than inflation, e.g. retirement contributions, health care premiums Revenues decline or are flat ~ state aid, sales tax monies

Revenues decline or are flat -- state aid, sales tax monies
NYS government restricts us -- rax cap, tax credits for those under tax cap
This year we felt these effects when the future of the Elementary Instrumental (4th grade) and the Chinese
Language Programs were in jeopardy. I said, "No" to the cuts, suggesting we use more reserves to cover
the budget gap.
But this got me thinking: Why does JD have to cut anything? Why should JD play defense? We are
JD! We are smart enough and creative enough to figure out new revenue streams without settling for cuts.
Together we can provide the children of our community the best education and experience possible without
settling. Your ideas for generating revenue are welcome with me spetrosillo@yahoo.com.
My husband, Michael, and I have lived in Dewitt for nearly ten years. We have three children - a 4th
grade daughter and a 2nd grade son at Moses DeWitt and a son who looks forward to kindergarten this fall.

I am a part-time Information Technology Program Manager, mostly in data warehousing and applications. I

am also a LPA.

I am devoted to both my family and my community, and I look forward to putting my energy and experience to good use for another term as your representative on the JD Board of Education.

Thank you for your vote on Tuesday, May 20th!

Dennis Resetarits MD

My wife, Gayle, and I have been residents of Jamesville for over thirty years. We have three children — Adam is a senior this year and has plans to attend LeMoyne College after graduation; Ashley graduated from JD in 2008 and graduated from Union College in 2012; and Auron graduated from JD in 2003, the Rochester Institute of Technology in 2008, Georgetown School of Law 2012 and currently practices in NYC.

I was born in Buffalo, New York, attended the University of Buffalo and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Pharmacy. I moved to Syracuse to attend medical school at Upstate Medical University. I have been practicing general/vascular surgery at Community General Hospital since finishing my residency in 1987.

Prior to becoming a Board member, I served on the District Steering Committee for four years providing parent input into important issues such as school safety, character education, codes of conduct and academic standards. For the last fifteen years I have served as a member of the Board of Education and served as Board President and Vice President during my tenure as a school board member. I also served on the Facili-

ties committee.

I am committee to creating a safe, academically stimulating atmosphere in each of our schools to allow each JD student the opportunity to realize his or her academic potential. Our school district faces numerou challenges in the upcoming years such as ever-changing state academic requirements, creating safe school environments, and implementing a new core curriculum all in a difficult financial climate. All of these and future challenges must be met within a fiscally responsible budget avoiding the burden of escalating school

As a parent and community member of the JD School District, I believe the greatest gift we can give our ildren is a quality education. As a school board member at Jamesville-DeWitt I will work diligently to As a patent and community memory on the 3D scion District, I retrieve the greatest girt we can give our children is a quality education. As a school board member at Jamesville-DeWitt I will work diligently to achieve these goals and provide every student the best educational opportunity possible. Thank you for your support on Tuesday, May 20, 2014.

To the Residents of the Jamesville-DeWitt School District:

The budget development process for 2014-15 again challenged the board and administration to create a budget that would provide appropriate support for the education of all of our students in a fiscal environment that continues to lack predictability and stability. First and foremost, Jamesville-DeWitt is a high achieving district supported by a community with high expectations for our students. The active involvement and support of local community members is critically important to the ongoing success of our students in all of their endeavors. The educational reform initiatives underway in New York State provide ongoing challenges as we work to implement the mandated changes in ways that seem educationally and fiscally appropriate for Jamesville-DeWitt students and community. The lack of fiscal stability and predictability calls for continued vigilance in monitoring and controlling expenditures. These conflicting factors remain, and, in fact, continue to increase in magnitude, making budgetary decisions incrementally more complex.

We continue to take steps to economize, particularly in areas that do not directly affect opportunities for students, by doing such things as down-sizing non-instructional operations, and refinancing our debt on capital projects. We participate in large consortiums to help moderate fringe benefit, energy, and purchasing costs. By taking these steps, we are in a better position long term to maintain the integrity of a quality, comprehensive, K-12 prozram.

Frojects. We participate in large consortiums to read incomment of the past few years the district experienced substantial decreases in revenue, particularly in the areas of state aid to education and local sales tax. We accommodated these changes by decreases to minimize the effect on local taxpavers.

could and by using funds from reserves to minimize the effect on local taxpayers.

We are fortunate that the state legislature did approve an increase in our state aid for 2014-15. That is certainly good news, and we appreciate the effort of our legislators on our behalf. The reality, however, is that the aid we are fortunate that the state legislature du approve an increase in our state and for 2014-15. In at its certainty good news, and we appreciate the effort of our legislators on our obeail. The reality, nowever, is that the effect of 1014-15 is still well below previous state support for our local schools. The board of education and administration worked very hard to develop a budget that would enable us to maintain the quality educational program the community expects and our students deserve, while minimizing the increase of burden being placed on local tax payers due to state aid allocations that remain reduced from previous years.

Our proposed budget for 2014-15 is \$51,069,349, an increase of 2.89% over the 2013-2014 budget. This budget enables us to provide the same educational experiences and opportunities currently available to our students. It also enables us to keep within our tax cap levy limit of 2.14%

Our revenue plan calls for continued use of reserves/fund balance, this year in the amount of \$1,145,000. We project a tax rate increase of 1.70%. As a point of reference, the tax rate per thousand of assessed value in 2004-2005 was \$21.17. Since that time the tax rate change per thousand has fluctuated within a dollar and a half of from the formation of the state of the state of the state of the tax rate of the tax rate of \$2.86.

Detailed copies of the budget are available by contacting the district office. Residents are invited to attend the budget hearing scheduled for Monday, May 12th, 2014, 7:00 PM in the High School. In addition to the budget the available to the somewhile the budget the proposed increase would bring the tax rate to \$2.286.

budget presentation, you will have the opportunity to hear comments from candidates for the Board of Education

THE BUDGET VOTE WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 20th, 2014 FROM 7:00 AM UNTIL 9:00 PM AT THE HIGH SCHOOL MAIN GYM ON EDINGER DRIVE

We encourage you to participate in the budget vote and as always appreciate your continued support.

THE JAMESVILLE-DEWITT BOARD OF EDUCATION

John McLoughlin Susan Petrosillo Dennis Resetarits, MD

Mark Schulmar Thomas Taylor Douglas Wilson

From the Board President - Sam Young

As the spring weather slowly returns to Central New York and the school year winds to a close, now is a good time to reflect on the many accomplishments of our school district and students over the past school year.

As the spring weather slowly returns to Central New York and the school year winds to a close, now is a good time to reflect on the many accomplishments of our school district and students over the past school year. Our students continue to perform at the highest levels academically, athletically, artistically and musically. Our students' success is made possible through the tremendous efforts of our dedicated faculty, coaches, academic advisors, administrators and staff. I hope that many of you had the opportunity to see the High School's musical School's musical School's musical theory of Hororras', to take in one of the hundreds of exciting athletic events in which our student athletes competed, or to view wonderful artwork produced by our art students at every level. If not, you still have an opportunity to hear some wonderful choral, band and orchestral music at our spring concerts, or see some of our high school art students' best work on display on May 20th, at the time of the budget vote.

This is also a good time to reflect on the budgetary challenges of this past year. Our Board of Education and administration has worked hard to produce a budget that will continue to allow our students on the challenged in all areas, while being financially responsible to the district residents who support the educational excellence that we all expect from Jamesville-DeWitt. As we spent the better part of January, February, March and April putting together our 2014-15 budget, it became clear that we would once again be challenged to the revenue necessary to support the high level of educational programming that our students enjoy.

As many of you know, most of our revenue comes from property taxes paid by district residents, and the second largest piece comes from New York State education ald. Changes enacted in recent years have constrained our ability to increase the property tax levy much beyond the "tax cap" of approximately 25%. At the same time, out intail state education and of chreates and property tax levy mu

happy, successful and safe conclusion to the school year. I hope everyone enjoys a spectacular spring and summer

Board Candidates

Jacob Bendix

Twenty years ago when my wife and I arrived to start our jobs on the Syracuse University faculty, our choice of where to purchase a home was based in large part on the reputation of the Jamesville-DeWitt eschools. Now, as parents and longtime residents, we are acutely aware of how well deserved that fine reputation is and of how much work is involved in maintaining it. Our three daughters all attended Jamesville Elementary School and one of them is now at JDHS with the other two at JDMS. They have experienced and appreciated so much of what our school district has to offer: taking a range of challenging classes, competing in varsity and modified sports, singing in the chorus, playing in the band. So I am very appreciative of the quality of our schools and very committed to maintaining that quality.

It is because of that commitment that I am running for the JD School Board. I believe that I can be a constructive contributor in helping to maintain the school standards of which we are so proud. As an educator myself, I am familiar with both the characteristics and the challenges of good teaching. As a professor who teaches more than 300 college freshmen a year, I have a good idea of the knowledge and skills that our children (not just mine but all of our children) will need to succeed in college. And as the father of three children currently in JD Schools, I have a good sense of how our schools are doing "from the inside."

Some personal details: I carned my BA from the University of California, my MS from the University of Wisconsin and my PhD from the University of Coognia. I Leach at SU, as does my wife, Carol Liebler. I am in the Maxwell School and she is in the Newhouse School. We live in Jamesville with our daughter Anyi, who is currently in 10th grade, Allin, who is in 8th, and Lanya, who is in 6th grade.

It is no secret to anyone who follows school news that the next few years will be challenging for our district. Costs are rising at the same time as financial support from the state is declining. At the Twenty years ago when my wife and I arrived to start our jobs on the Syracuse University faculty, our

Angela Tyson

Hello, my name is Angela Tyson and I'd like to introduce myself as a candidate for the Jamesville-DeWitt Board of Education. My husband Bob and I grew up in the Albany/Saratoga region, moved to Syracuse twenty-one years ago and have lived in DeWitt for the past sixteen years. I graduated from Hartwick College with a B.A. in Mathematics and work in the Financial Services department at Upstate University Hospital. Our daughter, Annika, is a 7th grader at JD Middle School and our son, Avery, is a fourth grader at Moses DeWitt Annika is a 7th grader at Moses of the Control DeWitt. Annika has participated in the JDMS chorus, band, plays, cross-country and Chinese language

DeWitt. Annika has participated in the JDMS chorus, band, plays, cross-country and Chinese language programs. Avery is a member of the MD chorus and orchestra, and plays baskethall and baseball in the JDYAA program. Prior to working at Upstate, I worked at Empire BCBS (WellPoint) for 25 years. Throughout my fifteen years as an Audit Manager, I created challenging objectives and expectations for my auditors, provided constructive feedback and evaluations, then tailored interactive training programs to improve their analytical skills. I coached soccer for the Town of DeWitt and T-ball for the JD Little League and coordinated the Girl Scout cookie sale program

Scout cookie sale program.

I had the incredible opportunity to mentor an inner city student under the NYS Mentoring Program established by Matilda Cuomo in the early 90's. Middle school students at risk of dropping out were paired with professionals to receive encouragement and motivation to continue attending school. The end of the program celebration was a luncheon at the Governor's mansion where the students were able to meet Mrs. Cuomo. Bob and I met with my mentee two years after he successfully graduated from high school.

Bob and I have been impressed with the JD teachers' dedication to the students' development, the talented the students of the students

ingers/musicians/actors, the high quality musical/theatrical productions and the advanced skills and mature

singers musicans actors, the night quainty musical meatrical productions and the advanced skills and mature behaviors of the athletes. We are fortunate to live in a diverse, supportive and close-knit community. The Jamesville-DeWitt School District is true to their mission and vision. The District's strategic goals encourage students to explore continuous improvement, seek out new opportunities for learning, strive for excellence, engage in community partnerships and be resourceful. Employers measure employee success using similar goals and action plans. Our students are competent and versatile because they are empowered with real-time, well-rounded life experiences.

As a school board member, I would actively participate in all discussions and apply my decision-making. budget and financial knowledge to making challenging decisions in the best interest of our students and community. Thank you for your support on May $20^{\rm a}$.

Proposed Budget Revenues

Proposed Budget Revenues

Over the past few years our district has experienced substantial decreases in state aid. Over the prior few years we have had significant reductions in staffing both instructional and non-instructional. This year we are experiencing an increase in state aid of \$296,010. We are planning on utilizing \$1,145,000 in reserves/fund balance for the 14-15 budget. This plan calls for a projected tax levy of \$36,806,764 a 2.14% increase in levy. This amount is equal to our maximum allowable levy of 2.14% and represents a tax rate increase of 1.70%.

The proposed budget would require a simple majority for approval as we are not proposing a tax levy increase above 2.14%. Should the budget be defeated the district can put the budget up for a revote. If it is defeated a second time the tax levy could not be increase from the current year's levy of \$36,034,150. The district would need to make a decision that could include a reduction in an additional \$772,614 from the proposed expense plan. These reductions would significantly reduce many of the programs in our district.

	2013-14 Budget	2014-15 Proposed
State Aid	\$11,309,213	\$11,605,223
County Sales Tax	160,635	160,635
Health Services Other Districts	200,000	200,000
Rentals	20,000	20,000
Drug Prevention Program	50,000	50,000
Interest On Deposits	130,000	130,000
Medicaid Reimbursements	50,000	50,000
Medicare Part D	158,500	158,500
Miscellaneous	743,224	743,227
Tax Levy	36,034,150	36,806,764
Appropriated Fund Balance	780,954	1,145,000
GRAND TOTAL	\$49,636,676	\$51,069,349

2014-15 PROPOSED BUDGET EXPENDITURES

Administrative Component

The Administration component of the budget represents the management of the school district and those functions not directly related to classroom instruction and maintenance of our facilities. It includes the Superintendent and district office staff, building principals and administrators, and general areas of expenditures such as legal representation, data processing, insurance and fringe benefits. The administration portion of the budget represents approximately 8% of total spending plan. We are pleased to report that the amount Jamesville-DeWitt allocates for administrative expenses is one of the lowest in the region. By controlling our administrative costs we are able to dedicate more of our resources directly into the classroom.

	2013-14 Budget	2014-15 Proposed	# Staff
Board of Education	\$18,700	\$18,700	
District Meeting	300	300	
Office of Superintendent	239,475	244,101	2
Business Office	296,295	301,890	4
Auditing	34,100	35,360	
Treasurer	300	300	
Tax Collector	15,300	15,300	
Fiscal Agent	2,500	2,500	
Legal Fees	40,000	40,000	
Personnel	25,200	22,649	
Public Information and Services	6,500	6,500	
Central Data Processing	207,183	207,183	
Unallocated Insurance	101,070	105,398	
Assessments on School Property	17,950	17,950	
BOCES Administration	198,123	205,967	
Curriculum Development	264,383	239,229	2
Building Supervision	1,203,412	1,218,462	15.8
nservice Training-Instruction	10,200	10,200	
Employee Benefits	1,440,274	1,504,647	
TOTAL	\$4,121,265	\$4,196,636	23.8

Capital Component

The largest expenditure in this category is the debt service associated with our building expansions and renovations. Debt service remains flat in comparison to last year. Over the past couple of years we have refinanced some long term debt, lowering the amount of interest we pay, thus decreasing our payments. Care has been taken to provide the needed dollars for preventative maintenance on operating systems including boilers, HVAC, fire alarms and communication systems. We have experienced a decrease in utility costs by continuing to participate in an energy consortium as well as we continue to gain efficiencies with controls to decrease utility utilization. We have finished the roof project, the replacement of boilers at Tecumseh and the Middle School, and lighting at Moses DeWitt. After a long winter the bus garage should be completed by this summer.

\$2.215.620	\$2.226.900	2.7
		21
738,360	743,154	5
6,500	6,500	
15,000	15,000	
720,137	752,324	
3,360,067	3,363,969	
0	0	
0	0	
0	0	
<u>\$7,155,694</u>	\$7,217,837	<u>32</u>
	15,000 720,137 3,360,067 0 0	738,360 743,154 6,500 6,500 15,000 15,000 720,137 752,324 3,360,067 3,363,969 0 0 0 0 0 0

Program Component

In order to maintain our commitment to excellence, the proposed program budget reflects the same number of budgeted K-12 teachers, aides, assistants, and counselors/support staff. Cost increases are primarily from rising retirement and health insurance expenses as well as special education costs. Our district's technology infrastructure upgrade, which included upgrading wire and wireless networks as well as data closets is complete. The budget does maintain our extra-curricular activities, such as music, drama and athletics. We are pleased to report that Jamesville-DeWitt dedicates maximum resources to the instruction that takes place in the classroom. Providing a quality education program that meets the needs of our diverse student population continues to be the major focus of our district.

GRAND TOTAL	\$49,636,676	\$51,069,349	467.6
TOTAL	<u>\$38,359,717</u>	\$39,654,876	411.8
Employee Benefits	12,242,328	12,789,253	
Contract Transportation	638	0	
Transportation	1,867,379	1,887,677	37.5
Interscholastic Athletics	669,259	687,750	2
Co-Curricular Activities	173,410	176,582	
Pupil Personnel Services	162,937	165,950	2
Psychological Services	405,518	373,018	5.45
Health Services	428,138	432,229	5.4
Guidance	713,981	727,452	12
Attendance	19,176	19,560	1
Computer Assisted Instruction	1,167,212	1,192,282	7
School Library & AV	686,745	690,314	6
Occupational Education	192,228	118,835	
Students with/ Disabilities	5,161,787	6,199,130	108.45
Instructional Salaries	\$14,468,981	\$14,194,844	225

Our Mission

The Jamesville-DeWitt Central School District has an uncompromising commitment to excellence in preparing students to achieve and succeed, to respect themselves and others and to practice lifelong learning in an ever-changing, richly diverse society. We take responsibility for providing a challenging educational experience in a safe and nurturing environment. We dedicate ourselves to the academic, artistic, social, emotional and physical development of each student.

PROPOSITIONS FOR SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2014

BUDGET PROPOSITION

Shall the Board of Education of the Jamesville-DeWitt Central School District be authorized to expend the sums set forth in the total amount of \$51,069,349 for the 2014-15 school year and to levy the necessary tax therefore?

Proposition #1 School Bus Replacement

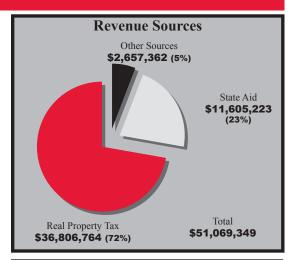
Shall the Board of Education of the Jamesville-DeWitt Central School District ("District") be authorized and directed to purchase three (3) 65-passenger diesel school buses with luggage at an approximate cost of \$112,235 each and two (2) 8-passenger vans at an approximate cost of \$33,700 each for a total sum not to exceed \$404,105, such sum to be raised by levy of a tax upon the taxable property of the District to be collected in annual installments in the years and amounts as the Board of Education shall determine in accordance with Section 416 of the Education Law and, in anticipation of such tax, issue obligations of the District?

Proposition #2 Library

Shall the Board of Education of the Jamesville-DeWitt Central School District levy and collect a tax to increase the amount from \$1,281,785 to \$1,310,717 for the support of the DeWitt Community Library, pursuant to Section 259 of the Education Law?

Qualifications for Voters

- United States Citizen.
- At least eighteen (18) years of age.
- A resident of the school district for at least thirty (30) days prior to May 20th, 2014





May 20th, 2014 7 am to 9 pm Jamesville-DeWitt High School

Absentee Voting

Absentee ballots are

available through the District Office and Due Back by 4:00 PM, May 20^{th} , 2014.

For more information call: 445-8304

Budget Hearing

A budget hearing will be held on Monday, May 12th, 2014 at 7:00 pm at the High School

School District Budget Notice			
Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2013-2014 School Year	Budget Proposed for the2014-2015 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2014-15 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount	\$49,636,676	\$51,069,349	\$50,938,396
Increase/decrease for the 2014-15 school year		\$1,432,673	\$1,301,720
Percentage increase(decrease) in each proposed budget		2.89%	2.62%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.46%	
Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Including Levy to Support Library Debt	\$36,034,150	\$36,806,764	
Total Permissible Exclusions	\$1,515,672	\$1,078,842	
A. Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Not Including Levy for Permissible Exclusions or Levy to Support Library Debt	\$34,518,478	\$35,727,922	
B. School Tax Levy Limit, Not Including Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$34,939,577	\$35,727,922	
Difference: A - B (Positive Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)	-\$421,099	-\$0	
Administrative component	\$4,121,265	\$4,196,636	\$4,196,636
Program component	\$38,359,717	\$39,654,876	\$39,558,923
Capital component	\$7,155,694	\$7,217,837	\$7,182,837

* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2014-15 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

Should the budget be defeated the district can put the budget up for a re-vote. If it is defeated a second time the tax levy could not be increase from the current year's levy of \$36,034,150. The district would need to make a decision that could include a reduction in an additional \$772,614 from the proposed expense plan. These reductions would significantly reduce many of the programs in our district.

List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with propositions not eligible for exclusion may affect property tax levy limit and voter approval requirements)

Description	Amount
4 Buses	\$404,105
DeWitt Community Library	\$1,310,717

	Budget Proposed for the 2014-15 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$685.86

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2014-2015 by the qualified voters of the Jamesville DeWitt Central School District, Onondaga County, New York, will be held at Jamesville-DeWitt High School Gym in said district on Tuesday, May 20, 2014 between the hours of 7:00am and 9:00pm, prevailing time in the High School Main Gym, 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.