



Chatham Connections

SPECIAL BUDGET ISSUE

SPRING 2012

A NEWSLETTER FOR CHATHAM STUDENTS, PARENTS & COMMUNITY



2012-2013 BUDGET

Maximizing Resources, Strengthening Program

On May 15th, Chatham Central School District voters will go to the polls to decide on a \$28,297,344 budget for the 2012-2013 school year. The budget provides the foundation to strengthen Chatham's educational program while remaining sensitive to the current economic climate, and carries a projected tax levy increase of 2.2176 percent, which is within the limits set by New York State's property tax cap.

Voting on the budget will take place from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the Mary E. Dardess Elementary School Gymnasium. Residents will also be asked to elect three candidates to the Board of Education and decide on a proposition which calls for \$249,660 of the budget to be allocated for the purchase of three school buses.

The 2012-2013 budget is part of a five-year fiscal plan the District put in place to balance the resources of the community with the educational needs of students. The budget was developed with a focus on maximizing available resources to strengthen academic program, improve student performance and provide a solid financial future for the District. Faced with limited state aid and property tax cap legislation potentially limiting revenue, school officials completed a thorough review of all operations and program to realize efficiencies and savings wherever possible.

Spending is up \$1,159,343, a 4.27 percent increase from the current budget, largely due to expense increases in the areas of energy, pension costs and insurance premiums. The District applied reserves and appropriated fund balance to offset the impact of these cost increases and lower the tax levy.

"This budget makes the best use of each dollar," said Superintendent of Schools Cheryl Nuciforo. "Despite signif-

icant inflationary costs and limited state aid, the budget allows the District to provide our community with a strong educational program that better prepares students for success in college and in the workplace, while at the same time remaining responsible to the taxpayer."

Staffing was adjusted to reflect program needs, declining enrollment, efficiency measures and the fifth grade's relocation to MED. A total of 8.1 instructional positions, one part-time administrative position, and two support positions were eliminated. The budget also calls for the addition of one reading teacher, a part-time music teacher, and a shared director of special education position, which will be split with New Lebanon CSD to reduce costs.

Program initiatives include increased learning opportunities for advanced stu-

What will I be voting on?

A \$28,297,344 budget for the 2012-2013 school year

- This budget is \$1,159,343 (4.27 percent) more than the 2011-2012 budget.
- This budget carries a projected 2.2176 percent tax levy increase that is within the limits of the NYS property tax cap.

Proposition #1- Bus Purchases

- Allows the District to use \$249,660 for the purchase of two 66-passenger school buses and one 7-passenger school bus.

School Board Election

Selection of three candidates for the Board of Education, who will appear on the ballot in the following order:

1. Michael Clark
2. David O'Connor
3. Jennifer Lindberg

< BUDGET VOTE >

Tuesday, May 15, 2012

9 a.m. – 9 p.m.

MED Elementary School

dents in science and English, the addition of band to the fourth grade, increased academic intervention services at the elementary level, and administrative restructuring to support implementation of new requirements such as the Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR) and the Dignity For All Students Act.

Information on the 2012-2013 budget and educational plan is available on www.chathamcentralschools.com. A Public Hearing on the budget is scheduled for May 8, at 6:30 p.m. in the Mary E. Dardess Elementary School Cafeteria.

HOW IS THE DISTRICT REDUCING COSTS?

Through efficiency measures, adjusting staffing levels to match declining enrollment and other cost saving initiatives, the Chatham Central School District was able to reduce the 2012-2013 budget as well as provide for additional savings over the next several years. Examples of cost cutting measures include:

Supplies and Equipment

- The District will purchase its own copy machines. By buying this equipment outright instead of leasing it, the District will see \$359,184 in savings over the next five years.
- General supply and equipment budgets are carefully examined and spending reduced wherever possible.

Financing

- The District recently refinanced existing debt to take advantage of lower interest rates. Because of the District's excellent Aa3 credit rating, the refinancing will provide a budgetary savings of \$680,028 over the seven years remaining on those bonds.

Personnel

- Teaching staffing was reduced to match program needs and declining enrollment.
- Following a retirement, one janitorial position and one part-time (.8) maintenance position were consolidated into a single maintenance position.
- Following a retirement, business office staffing was consolidated and the vacant position eliminated.
- Chatham will share a Director of Special Education with New Lebanon CSD, with both Districts splitting the cost of the position.

Energy

- Solar panels installed on the roof of the MED building in April, 2011 have provided the District with approximately \$5,000 in energy savings so far. The panels were paid for entirely through a grant the District applied for from NYSERDA.
- The voter approved capital improvement project (completed in November, 2011) increased energy efficiency through the installation of energy efficient lighting and equipment in cafeterias, gymnasiums and classrooms.
- The District recently undertook a comprehensive study of its transportation system, the results of which will be used to maximize efficient use of the District's fleet and decrease fuel consumption.

Facilities

- This District is currently undertaking a facilities study to determine the feasibility of consolidating Chatham's three school buildings into two and provide data on any potential cost savings closing a building would realize. Once the results of the study are available, the District will schedule community discussions to determine if consolidation is the best course of action for our educational program.

HOW IS THE DISTRICT USING RESERVES TO LOWER THE TAX LEVY?

The District utilized \$375,571 in reserves to help lower the tax levy to within the threshold set by the new property tax cap. The funds were drawn from accounts designed to offset expenses in the areas of accrued liability, workers' compensation, unemployment insurance, and tax certiorari.

These accounts exist to allow the District to avoid steep increases in the tax levy during times of limited financial resources. By utilizing these reserves, the District was able to hold the projected tax levy increase to 2.176%, despite the District experiencing rapidly inflating costs and limited state aid.

The use of these reserves will not overly deplete these

accounts, and funds remain available to provide financial security in the future. Use of these reserves is part of the District's five-year fiscal plan designed to provide for the financial well-being of the District and avoid steep increases of the tax levy in a time of shrinking resources for schools.

The District also allocated \$1,299,660 of fund balance to reduce the tax levy. Fund balance is a reserve much like a savings account. When District expenses are less than what was expected or revenues are higher than expected, the money is held in the fund balance. The District utilizes fund balance each year as revenue in the budget to minimize spending cuts and stabilize tax increases.

WHAT ARE THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO STAFFING LEVELS?

Based on current program needs, Chatham Central Schools is eliminating or reducing a small number of staff positions in the 2012-2013 budget.

One full time elementary teacher position, four full-time teaching assistant positions, one full-time counselor position, one part-time (.5) art position, one part-time (.5) social studies position, one part-time (.5) math position, and one part-time (.6) physical education position are being eliminated. Following a retirement, one full-time custodial position and one part-time (.8) laborer position were consolidated into a single laborer position. One full-time business office position was also eliminated following a retirement.

These staffing adjustments reflect efficiency measures, declining student enrollment and the fifth grade's relocation to MED. There will be no loss of educational program as a result of these changes.

Program initiatives include the addition of one reading teacher and one part-time (.4) music teacher.

Changes to administrative structure include the elimination of a part time (.4) administrative support teacher position and the addition of a shared (.5) Director of Special Education with New Lebanon CSD. Responsibilities for the Director of Pupil Personnel Services will shift from special education to an increased role in the implementation of APPR standards.

WHY IS A 2.176% TAX LEVY INCREASE CONSIDERED WITHIN THE PROPERTY TAX CAP?

Under the tax cap law, Public schools in NY must use a complex state formula to determine how much they can increase their tax levies without having to seek an increased percentage of voter approval for their budgets. According to the state formula, Chatham CSD can increase its tax levy by 2.2176 percent and remain within the threshold set by the “cap.”

The tax cap legislation allows districts to increase their tax levies by more than 2 percent, due to a growth rate factor the state formula provides and exemptions that are allowed for certain expenses. As a result, many districts across the state can raise their tax levies by more than 2 percent and still be within their “cap.”

WHAT HAPPENS IF THE BUDGET IS DEFEATED?

If voters do not approve the budget on May 15, the District has three options: put the same budget or a revised budget up for vote on June 19th, or adopt a contingency budget. If the budget is defeated on June 19th, the Board is required to adopt a contingency budget

With the property tax cap law now in effect, a contingency budget now holds a school district’s tax levy increase at 0%, meaning the District would be required to levy the same amount of taxes as in the current year or less, without adjustments for inflation, state mandated pension rate increases, contractual obligations, or any other cost increase.

As in the past, a contingency budget also limits spending for equipment, supplies, furniture, and new capital projects, as well as puts limits on public use of District facilities. However, all state mandated programs, whether funded by state aid or not, would need to be retained.

These regulations mean that in a contingent budget, the Board would be required to cut \$682,000 from the proposed budget to meet its contingency budget level. A budget cut of this magnitude would require significant reductions in staffing and program, as well as the elimination of any projected purchases of new equipment.

Students “Glog” About Nutrition

To wrap up their study of nutrition and healthy eating, second graders headed to the MED computer lab to “glog” about balanced meals. A glog (short for graphical blog) is interactive visual platform, much like an online poster. In creating these virtual nutrition posters, students had a creative way to demonstrate their knowledge of the four food groups.

“This is project-based learning,” said second grade teacher Lindsay Frament. “They have been learning how to eat healthy, and now they get to take everything they learned and create three balanced meals using Glogster.”

Glogster is an online program that allows students to create interactive posters using multimedia elements like text, audio, video, graphics and data.

Second grader Benjamin Halpin explained the three plates on his glog. “We have a meal for breakfast, lunch and dinner and we need all the food groups in each meal,” he said.

Benjamin’s meals contained foods like oranges, bagels, yogurt and eggs. “There were lots of things to choose from, I just came up with some of my favorites,” he said.

Project based learning of this kind not only reinforces students’ knowledge of classroom subject matter, it also helps them develop vital 21st Century skills.

“They are learning keyboarding and mouse skills, how to get to the site, how to log in,” said technology integration teacher Sarah Murray, who assisted the students with their projects. “They are dragging and dropping, highlighting, resizing, copying and pasting – all those little skills that will be so valuable to them.”

Also, because the student glogs were created online, parents and other family members could log on and check out their children’s work.

“They are dragging and dropping, highlighting, resizing, copying and pasting – all those little skills that will be so valuable to them.”



Understanding New Tax Cap Numbers in the Property Tax Report Card

To comply with new property tax cap regulations, several different tax levy numbers are included in the Budget Notice and Property Tax Report Card. The terminology provided below is to help you understand those numbers.

Tax Levy Limit

The Tax Levy Limit is the highest allowable tax levy, before exclusions, that a school district can propose as part of its annual budget and require the approval of only a simple majority of voters (50 percent plus 1 vote) to pass the budget. If a district proposes a budget with a tax levy amount (before exclusions) above this limit, it will need the approval of a supermajority of voters (60 percent) to pass the budget.

Permissible Exclusions

Certain expenses are exempt from the cap. Under the law, the following expenses are excluded from the Tax Levy Limit:

- Voter-approved capital expenditures (such as building projects or bus purchases).
- Increases in state-mandated employer contributions to teacher and employee pension systems that exceed two percent.
- Court orders or judgments resulting from tort actions of any amount that exceeds five percent of a district's current tax levy.

A school district may add excluded expenses to its Tax Levy Limit without triggering the need for 60 percent voter approval. The tax levy limit PLUS permissible exclusions equals the maximum allowable tax levy that can be passed with a simple majority of voter approval.

Proposed Tax Levy

The Proposed Tax Levy is the total dollar amount to be raised locally by taxes to support the budget.

More information about New York State's property tax cap is available at www.chathamcentralschools.com

HOW WAS THE BUDGET DEVELOPED?

The 2012-2013 budget was developed with sensitivity to the current economic climate. Chatham utilized zero-based budgeting, meaning the budget was built from the ground up to allow for a thorough review of all budget codes and better identification of areas where savings could be realized. Focus was placed on maximizing available resources to strengthen Chatham's educational program, provide for the long-term financial health of the District, and hold the tax levy to within the threshold set by the new property tax cap.

In January and February, the District began to develop revenue projections and analyze the impact of increased operational costs and Governor Cuomo's proposed changes to education aid. Mandated contributions to the NYS Teachers' Retirement System were projected to go up by over 7%, while contributions to the NYS Employees' Retirement System were projected to increase by 18%. Chatham also faced an approximate 9% increase in health insurance premiums.

Because of new tax cap legislation, school officials were required to follow a state formula to determine a tax levy threshold that would decide the amount of voter support the budget would need for passage. According to the formula, Chatham CSD can increase its tax levy by 2.2176% with a simple majority (50% plus 1 vote) of voter approval. The District was required to report this number to the state by March 1st.

Program delivery was examined and a ten-year enrollment projection study was completed. Operational efficiencies were explored and implemented wherever practical. Based on program needs, efficiency measures, projected enrollment and the relocation of the fifth grade to MED, 10.1 full-time equivalent (FTE) staffing positions were eliminated from the budget. Program initiatives include the addition of one reading teacher, one part-time music teacher, and a shared Director of Special Education with New Lebanon CSD.

The 2012-2013 budget is also part of a five-year fiscal plan designed to provide financial stability in challenging economic times. This budget cycle, the District realized significant savings over the next several years by refinancing existing debt and by purchasing copy equipment to save on leases.

Beginning in February, public budget presentations were made at regularly scheduled Board of Education meetings. Additional town hall budget presentations were scheduled in Austerlitz, Canaan and Ghent, and budget presentations were made available to community groups that requested one. Residents had the opportunity to participate, ask questions and make comments at these meetings and through the District website. Copies of presentations and other budget information were posted on the website as they became available.

On March 30, the New York State Legislature adopted a state budget that included modest increases in education aid, but state funding for schools remained significantly

less than what was available three years ago.

To reduce the impact of increasing costs and limited state aid, and to meet its property tax cap threshold, the District applied \$375,561 in reserves and allocated \$1,299,660 of fund balance to reduce the tax levy.

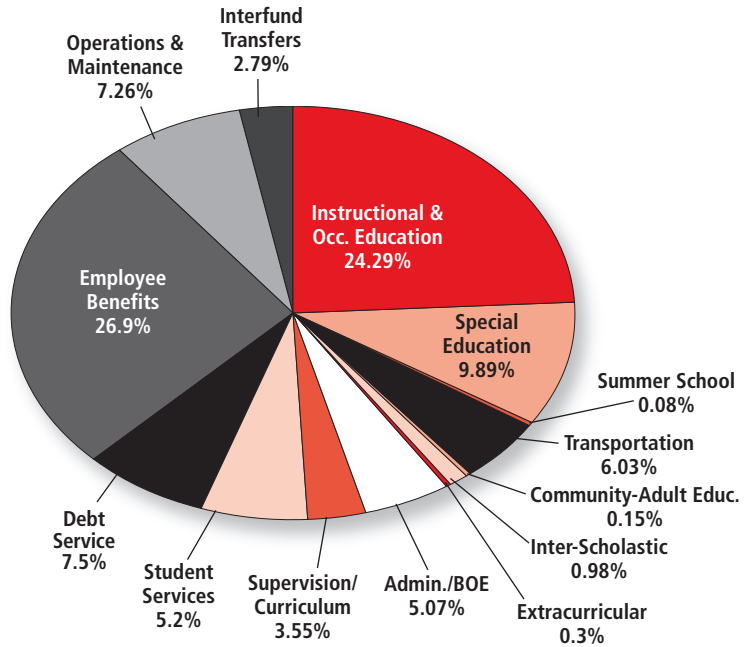
The Board of Education adopted a budget on April 17 that called for \$28,297,344 in spending and held the projected tax levy increase at 2.2176 percent.

A Public Hearing on the proposed budget and educational plan is scheduled for May 8 at 6:30 p.m. in the Mary E. Dardess Elementary School.



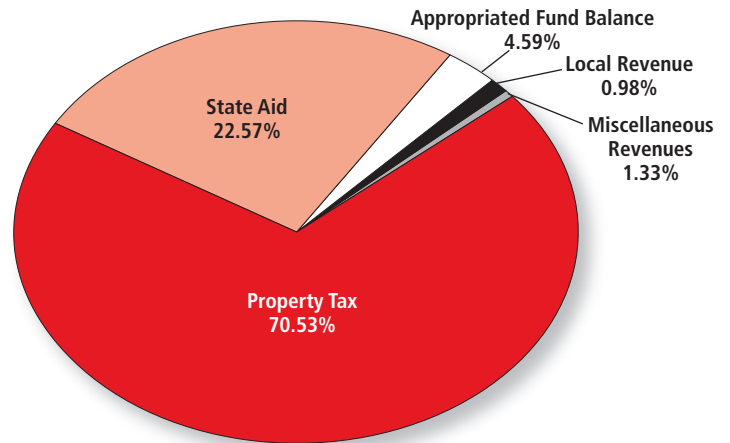
2012-2013 PROPOSED BUDGET

	BUDGET 2011-2012	PROPOSED 2012-2013
Instructional & Occ. Education	\$6,767,975	\$6,874,580
Special Education	\$2,771,578	\$2,798,811
Summer School	\$21,194	\$21,709
Student Services	\$1,532,466	\$1,472,487
Extracurricular	\$78,557	\$85,250
Inter-Scholastic	\$265,863	\$278,180
Community-Adult Education	\$33,500	\$43,500
Administrative/BOE	\$1,487,762	\$1,435,899
Supervision/Curriculum	\$1,066,393	\$1,003,245
Transportation	\$1,720,463	\$1,705,164
Operations & Maintenance	\$1,992,884	\$2,053,818
Employee Benefits	\$6,790,303	\$7,612,542
Debt Service	\$2,069,740	\$2,122,864
Interfund Transfers	\$539,323	\$789,295
TOTAL	\$27,138,001	\$28,297,344



ESTIMATED REVENUES

	BUDGET 2011-2012	BUDGET 2012-2013
Property Tax	\$19,525,975	\$19,958,976
Local Revenue	\$410,481	\$277,620
State Aid	\$6,018,925	\$6,385,518
Miscellaneous	\$132,620	\$375,570
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$1,050,000	\$1,299,660
TOTAL	\$27,138,001	\$28,297,344



PROPERTY TAX REPORT CARD

	2011-2012	2012-2013	% Change
Total Proposed Budget	\$27,138,001	\$28,297,344	4.27%
School Tax Levy Limit		\$19,085,621	
Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit		\$873,355	
Proposed School Year Tax Levy (not including Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit)		\$19,085,621	
Proposed School Year Tax Levy (including Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit in 2012-13)*	\$19,525,975	\$19,958,976	2.22%
Public School Enrollment	1,264	1,242	-1.74%
Consumer Price Index			3.2%

Are you registered to vote on May 15?

To be eligible to vote on May 15 you must be...

- a citizen of the United States, 18 years of age or older,
- a resident of the Chatham Central School District for a period of 30 days or more preceding the day of the vote,
- registered to vote with either the School District or the Columbia County Board of Elections.

If you have not previously registered and you would like to vote in this election, you must register with the School District Board of Registration. The next Voter Registration Day is Tuesday, May 8 from 2:00-7:00 p.m. in the M.E.D. Elementary School Lobby.

2012 Board of Education Candidates

Three candidates are running for three open seats on the Board of Education. All seats are for three-year terms beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2015. Each candidate was asked to write a brief article on why he or she wishes to serve on the Board.



Michael Clark

I believe the important questions before us are: What motivates our students and makes them want to come to school? How do we provide individualized opportunities for students to be challenged and stretched intellectually, while also finding the areas where each one experiences success? How do we support students' ability to form positive social relationships? How do we do what is best for our students and staff, while still meeting the various state and federal requirements?

I have been co-director of the Powell House Youth Program for 12 years, working with youth 4th to 12th grade. Previously, I was a family support worker and program director for a non-profit agency providing preschool programs for migrant farm workers in rural Florida. I worked in Guatemala for 6 years with the US Peace Corps, CARE and the Guatemalan Ministry of Agriculture. I have a BS in Biology, a Master's in Teaching English as a Second Language, and recently earned Life Guard certification. I have two children, one in 8th grade and one in college.



David O'Connor

I have been a Board member for five years. I have tried to be supportive of the best public education possible for Chatham students. It is critically important that K-12 education prepare students to meet their fullest potential -- intellectually, socially, and with diverse extracurricular offerings. We have talented and dedicated employees who are essential to this mission, and we need to provide them competitive compensation for their hard work. As a Board member I have tried to stress fiscal responsibility and efficiency as a member of Audit, Finance, and Negotiations committees. Our community has limited resources to fund public education, and we must balance the importance of great schools with the financial challenges taxpayers face to feed, house, and provide for their families and save for retirement. I believe we provide an excellent education program in Chatham, and that working together we can pursue a course of continuing improvement. I would appreciate your support for another term on the Board. Thank you.



Jennifer Lindberg

I have lived in the District for 14 years and have a daughter in Chatham Middle School. I firmly believe that public schools are an integral part of the community and must be nurtured and supported to allow our children to thrive and prepare them for the future. For the past three years I've been a member of the District's Fine Arts Booster Club, and have been a member of the Strategic Planning Committee since 2010.

Being an effective Board member requires a commitment of time and thought – understanding both the issues facing the school district and current educational requirements. My education and business background provide experience working with a variety of people and departments, balancing the requirements of many constituents, budgeting and project planning.

The next few years will be important ones as the District strives to increase the level of academic achievement. As a Board member, I will be committed to working to help identify and implement the best plan of action to provide our students an excellent education within the District's means.

PROPOSITION #1 BUS PURCHASES

Proposition #1 on the May 15 ballot will ask voters to approve the purchase of two 66-passenger diesel buses and one 7-passenger gasoline suburban bus, at a cost not to exceed \$249,660. The District will allocate funds already included in the proposed 2012-2013 budget, allowing the buses to be purchased outright without an additional levy of taxes and without the District incurring any debt.

This proposition is part of an ongoing bus replacement plan designed to keep Chatham's fleet in a safe, working order. New bus purchases replace old buses based on vehicle mileage, age, repair history and condition. This year, the plan calls for the retirement of two fourteen-year-old 65-passenger buses and one eleven-year-old 7-passenger suburban bus.

Harnessing the Wind

To learn first-hand how wind is used to create renewable energy, environmental science students at CHS designed and built their own wind turbine blades, which they put to the test in a classroom competition.

Teams of students put their heads together to develop a design that could produce the most electricity and mechanical torque. They experimented with different materials and shapes,

taking into account friction, wind drag and blade pitch.

“We wanted to curve them to catch more wind,” said junior David Parlman, who teamed up with seniors Douglas Northrup and Sarah Williams to build a set of large, leaf-shaped turbine blades using cardboard and duct tape.

The experiment was part of a course program on energy resources and the impact using these resources has on the earth’s environment.

The blades were attached to a small turbine, and with a steady wind source provided by an electric fan, David, Doug and Sarah tested their design’s ability to produce electricity and lift weight. Under full wind, their turbine produced 1.6 volts of electricity and was able to lift a stack of 29 one-inch steel washers, which was all the weight available for the test.

“I think it worked great. It might not have produced a lot of energy, but it lifted a lot of weight,” said David.



Other team’s designs, which used smaller, faster spinning blades, generated as much as 2.6 volts, but could not lift as much weight.

The experiment was part of a course program on energy resources and the impact using these resources has on the Earth’s environment. Along with wind power and other renewable resources like solar, hydroelectric and biomass energy, students studied fossil fuels like oil, coal and natural gas, and nuclear energy.

Environmental science is a year-long course open to juniors and seniors. By taking the course, students have the opportunity to earn up to three college credits through Chatham’s University in High School affiliation with SUNY.

Reading “The Giver”

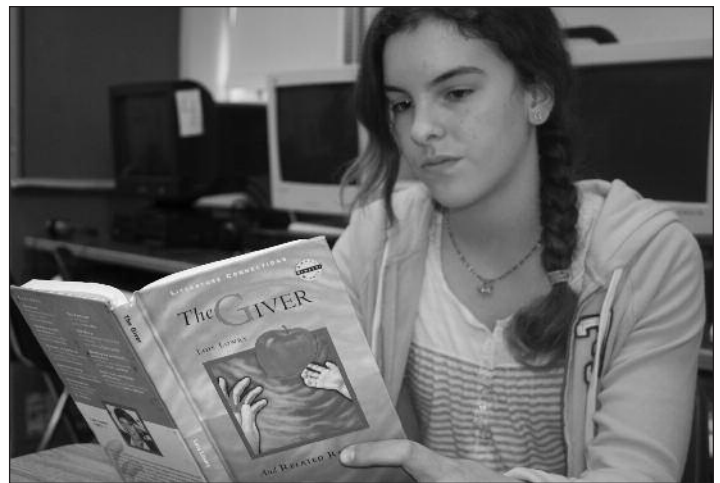
Seventh graders have been studying speculative fiction, a science fiction subgenre which deals with dystopian societies of the future and the impact humans have on the Earth. The centerpiece of their reading has been the Newbery Medal winning novel “The Giver,” which students have been exploring together as a class.

“The Giver is a touchstone text for speculative fiction that raises student awareness of how the choices they make today affect their lives in the future,” said seventh grade English teacher Michele Debye-Saxinger.

“It’s about this society where everything has to be perfect,” explained seventh grader Stella Fairall. “Everybody is assigned a certain job when they are twelve and they have to do what their leaders say, and they have to be perfect all the time,” she said, and went on to add, “I like this kind of stuff, because it relates to my favorite book ‘The Hunger Games.’”

Stella was by no means alone in her sentiment -speculative fiction has been a hot item among young people as of late, with the success of the “The Hunger Games” novel and subsequent feature film generating a large amount of excitement for the genre.

“We are using interest in ‘The Hunger Games’ as a springboard to get students interested in other literature, and



ultimately interested in reading more,” said Debye-Saxinger.

Aside from reading and discussing “The Giver” and similar short stories and films in class, students were tasked with reading speculative fiction novels independently. The list of titles students could choose from included “The Hunger Games,” its sequels, and other related works.

Debye-Saxinger noted students have shown a true eagerness for the assignment. “The independent reading books have been flying off the shelf,” she said.

CAR-RT SORT
 POSTAL CUSTOMER

Produced in cooperation with the Questar III Communications Service

ADMINISTRATORS

Cheryl Nuciforo 392-1501
Superintendent
 Chuck Snyder 392-1503
Interim School Business Administrator
 Jean Scheriff 392-2417
Director of Pupil Services
 Kristen Reno 392-2255
Mary E. Dardess
Elementary School Principal
 Annemarie Barkman 392-1560
Chatham Middle School Interim Principal
 John Thorsen 392-4142
Chatham High School Principal
 Amy Potter 392-4142
Chatham High School Assistant Principal

BOARD MEMBERS

Term Expires
 John Wapner 2012
President
 James Toteno 2014
Vice President
 James Cartin 2013
 Michael Clark 2012
 Gail Behrens Day 2013
 James Marks 2014
 David O'Connor 2012
 Melony Spock 2013
 Catherine Fowler 2012
Student Representative

CHATHAM CSD BUDGET NOTICE

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2011 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2012 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2012 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 27,138,001	\$ 28,297,344	\$ 27,614,686
Increase/decrease for the 20__ (+1) school year		\$ 1,159,343	\$ 476,683
Percentage increase(decrease) in each proposed budget		4.27%	1.76%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		3.2%	
School Tax Levy Limit		\$ 19,085,621	
Proposed School Year Tax Levy (without permissible exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit)		\$ 19,085,621	\$ 18,652,620
Total Permissible Exclusions		\$ 873,355	
Proposed School Year Tax Levy (including permissible exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit)	\$19,525,975	\$ 19,958,976	\$ 19,525,975
Administrative component	\$ 2,392,877	\$ 2,637,721	\$ 2,968,579
Program component	\$ 19,870,047	\$ 20,486,655	\$ 19,341,954
Capital component	\$ 4,875,077	\$ 5,172,968	\$ 5,304,151

Under a contingent budget, major program reductions would be required such as staff layoffs, in both instructional and non instructional areas. In addition, the district would have to reduce its participation in extracurricular activities and after school programs. No equipment could be purchased as well as the district would have to charge for the use of its facilities and grounds areas.

	Budget Proposed for the 2012 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings¹	\$ 384.77

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2012-2013 by the qualified voters of the Chatham Central School District, Columbia County, New York, will be held at Mary E. Dardess Elementary School in said district on Tuesday, May 15, 2012 between the hours of 9:00am and 9:00pm, 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.

BUDGET DETAILS AVAILABLE ONLINE!

Information about the 2012-2013 budget is available on the Chatham Central School District webpage at:

www.chathamcentralschools.com

