

Waterville Valley School Budget

School Year 2021 – 2022
Version 5.1
Meeting March 1st 6:15pm
<http://bit.ly/WVESBudgetHearing2021>

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WVES 2020 in Review

- Budget approved in March 2020 expecting 20 students
- COVID-19 causes school to change to remote learning
- Influx of new residents
 - School enrollment jumps from a low of 17 to a record 61
 - WVES is designed for a maximum of 45 students
 - All spare spaces are converted to classrooms
 - Extra staff is required to accommodate the new classrooms
 - Staffing went from 4.7 FTE to 7.9 FTE

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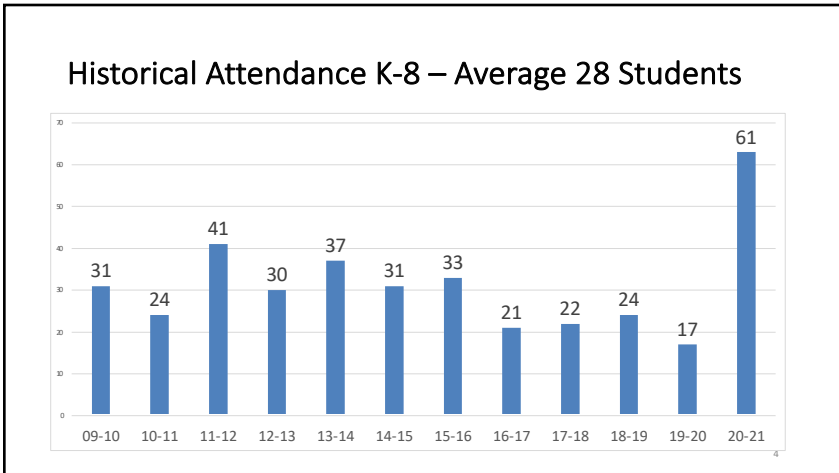
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WVES 2020 in Funding

- 2020 Budget Shortfall of \$310,914
- Budget year 2019 had a surplus of \$207,210
 - Initial encumbrance of \$142,095 in June of 2020
 - Executive order #38 allowed us to encumber the remaining balance \$65,115
- Budget Cuts from the 2020/2021
 - \$38,235 of discretionary Spending
 - \$20,000 High School Tuition
- Left a shortfall of \$45,469
 - WV Foundation Fundraiser - \$26,900
 - COVID Relief \$77,222 (December)
 - Tuition collection from 2015 - \$12,000
- 2020 Estimated Surplus \$70k

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Article 1 – Alternative Ballot Approval of Optional Voting Procedures

The first article on the alternative ballot shall ask whether voters approve these optional meeting procedures. If the optional procedures are not approved by a simple majority, all other warrant articles shall be deemed disapproved. However, the election of officers and action on other items on the initial ballot will be effective. If the optional voting procedures are approved, then all other votes on warrant articles shall be deemed the final action of the meeting, provided that if the operating budget warrant article is not approved, the governing body may vote to:

- (a) Convene a meeting before September 1 to adopt an operating budget; or*
- (b) Elect to deem that the meeting has adopted the previous year's operating budget article, not including separate warrant articles.*

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Article 2 – Reports of Agents

To see what action the district will take relative to the reports of Agents, Auditors, Committees, and Officers.

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Article 3 – Authorization to Retain Fund Balance

To see if the district will vote to authorize, indefinitely until rescinded, to retain year-end unassigned funds in an amount not exceed, in any fiscal year, 5 percent of the current year's net assessment in accordance with RSA 198-4-b, II The School Board recommends this article (3-0) (Majority vote required)

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Article 3 – Authorization to Retain Fund Balance

- What does this mean?
 - If there are funds available, the School Board will be able to retain 5% of that year's budget for future use should unanticipated expenses arise.
 - Example a High School Student moves to town – Unanticipated Tuition due to Plymouth Regional High School
- If the Board authorizes any expenditures from the fund it will publish a detail report to the district annually.

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Article 4 - Operating Budget

To see if the district will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of one million six hundred eighty-eight thousand five hundred sixty-five dollars \$1,688,565 for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for the school district officials and agents, and for the payment for the statutory obligations of the district. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. The School Board recommends this article (3-0) (Majority vote required)

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The School Budget Includes....

- Maintenance of the WVES School building including the recreation department
- Personnel to educate K-8 grades
- Tuition to educate 9-12 grades

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Education Scenarios Explored

- Scenario 1 – K-8 in Waterville, 9 – 12 in Plymouth (Status Quo)
- Scenario 2 – K-12 in Plymouth (Close the school)

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Scenario 1 – K-8 WVES, 9-12 PRHS

- This is the budget as presented.
- State requires us to raise a minimum of \$602,993 for education
 - If the budget is less, the state keeps the remainder
 - This number changes annually
- The budget presented is \$1,688,565
 - An **increase** of \$503,066 (43%) over the previous budget

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Scenario 2 – Close the School

- Fixed Costs (\$290,751)
 - SAU Services \$95,638
 - Busing \$32,000
 - Building Operations \$163,113
- Tuition Costs based on this budget census (\$1,771,673)
 - 61 Elementary Students at \$21,500 = \$1,311,500
 - Elementary Special Ed = \$250,673
 - 7 High School Students at \$21,500 = \$150,500
 - Includes High School Special Ed

- Compared with proposed budget (\$1,688,565)
 - Cost - \$2,003,424
 - Increase - \$314,859

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Budget Highlights

Regular Education and Guidance	Increased \$307,548	3.4 FTE to 6.1 FTE
Special Education	Increased \$119,364	IEP Based
Co-Curricular	Decreased \$23,409	Removed Afterschool
Health Services	Increased \$2,500	Enrollment based
Psychological Services	Increased \$2,500	IEP Based
Speech and OT/PT Services	Decreased \$9,200	Demographics based

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Budget Highlights

Improvement of Instruction	Increased \$9,378	Part of Contract for addition staff
School Board Services	Increased \$1,801	Audit, Legal, Fingerprinting
SAU Services	Decreased \$1,595	Change in staffing at the SAU
Principals Office	Increased \$7,038	Retirement, enrollment
Building Services	Increased \$17,618	Replacing Equipment
Transportation	Increased \$6,000	Enrollment Based
Total	Increased \$503,066	43% Increase

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Tax Impact

Adds \$1.51 to the tax bill

Property Value	Tax Increase
\$250,000	\$377.50
\$500,000	\$775.00
\$750,000	\$1,132.50

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Common Questions

- What happens if this budget is approved, and the enrollment decreases to 45 or less between now and next September?
 - Contracts are sent out and signed on April 15th
 - We will send out the core teach contracts on April 15th
 - We will hold back on the new staff contracts until June when we have more knowledge about the enrollment numbers
 - All surplus revenue will be used to re-adjust the tax rate in the December tax bills, as normal
- Why is this budget \$503,066 higher, when this year we had a deficit of \$310,914. A difference of \$192,152
 - 5 additional high school students @ \$21,5000 each
 - Special Ed increases
 - Health Care and retirement increases

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Article 4 - Operating Budget

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Voting Procedures (RSA8:3 – 1129)

- The budget and presentation was presented at a Zoom meeting on February 1st, 2021 at 6:15pm
- The budget and presentation will be presented at an interactive Zoom meeting on February 11th, 2021 at 4:00pm
- The Budget again will be presented on March 1st, 2021 at 6pm via Zoom
- There will be a week long period where the district can submit questions either by email, voice mail, or standard mail. Every voter will be received a document by standard mail describing the procedure
- There will be a second Zoom meeting on March 8th, at 6pm where all questions will be answered
- The School Warrant articles will then be voted on via paper ballot between 11am – 7pm during the normal elections of Town and School Officials

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