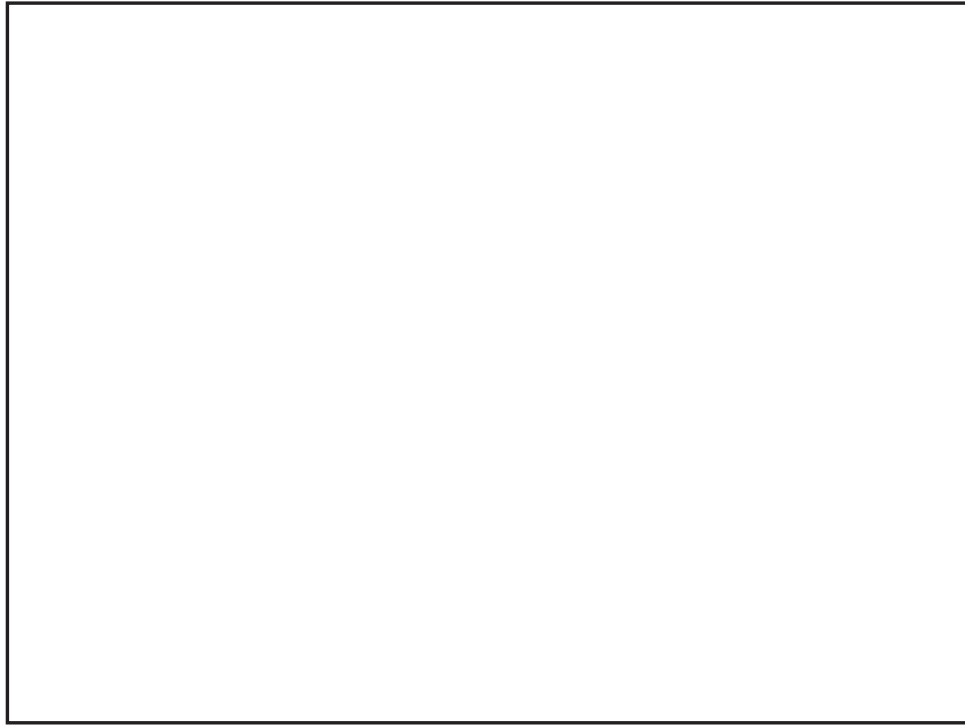


strict

EAST ISLIP UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT



## Substantial Reductions Made to District Budget

On January 31, the district offered community residents a window into the challenges of budget formulation for 2012-13. Carrying the budget forward from the current year would result in a tax levy increase of nearly 10%. This was unacceptable. Thus began the process of reducing spending and showing residents what could not be included in a tax levy cap budget.

More than \$2 million in reductions have been made to the budget since that first presentation. These include reductions in staffing and cuts in an array of operations, especially in the area of transportation. Losses of program occurred through elimination of the BOCES Summer School (which also serves out-of-district students) and a partial reduction in the BOCES Career and Technical Education program.

“There are no easy pathways to getting to the tax cap without reducing programs and services for students,” said Interim Superintendent John J. Finello. “The call from the community was to give voters an opportunity to preserve the programs that could not be included in a tax cap budget, and that is what the Board has done.”

Board members, administrators, and community members gathered at a recent work session on budget planning.

### Nearly 25 Staff Positions at Stake With Proposed Budget

A sizable number of staff positions, including the jobs of 23 full-time equivalent teachers, may be eliminated if the proposed budget is not approved, along with the programs they support.

Seven teachers and one teaching assistant of kindergarten, 7.7 music teachers for grades 3-12, and general education teachers who support the district's ability to provide a 9-period day at the middle school and high school were not included in the projected tax levy cap budget that was first introduced in late January.

These positions will possibly be eliminated if the proposed budget is not approved, because the Board will likely provide voters with the tax levy cap budget.

•This is certainly not a threat; it's the reality of school budgeting in New York in 2012, said Board of Education President Glenn Reed. •These are the new rules that the tax cap legislation imposes on school districts. Our community has asked us to give them the opportunity to decide whether they want to fund these programs and positions. In the words of our governor, this is all about local control, and our voters determine that outcome.

### Total Reductions of More than \$2 Million

#### € Staffing Reductions

Reduction of 15 positions: one counselor, one administrator, five TAs, two social workers, one librarian, four clericals, and one security position.

#### € Transportation Savings

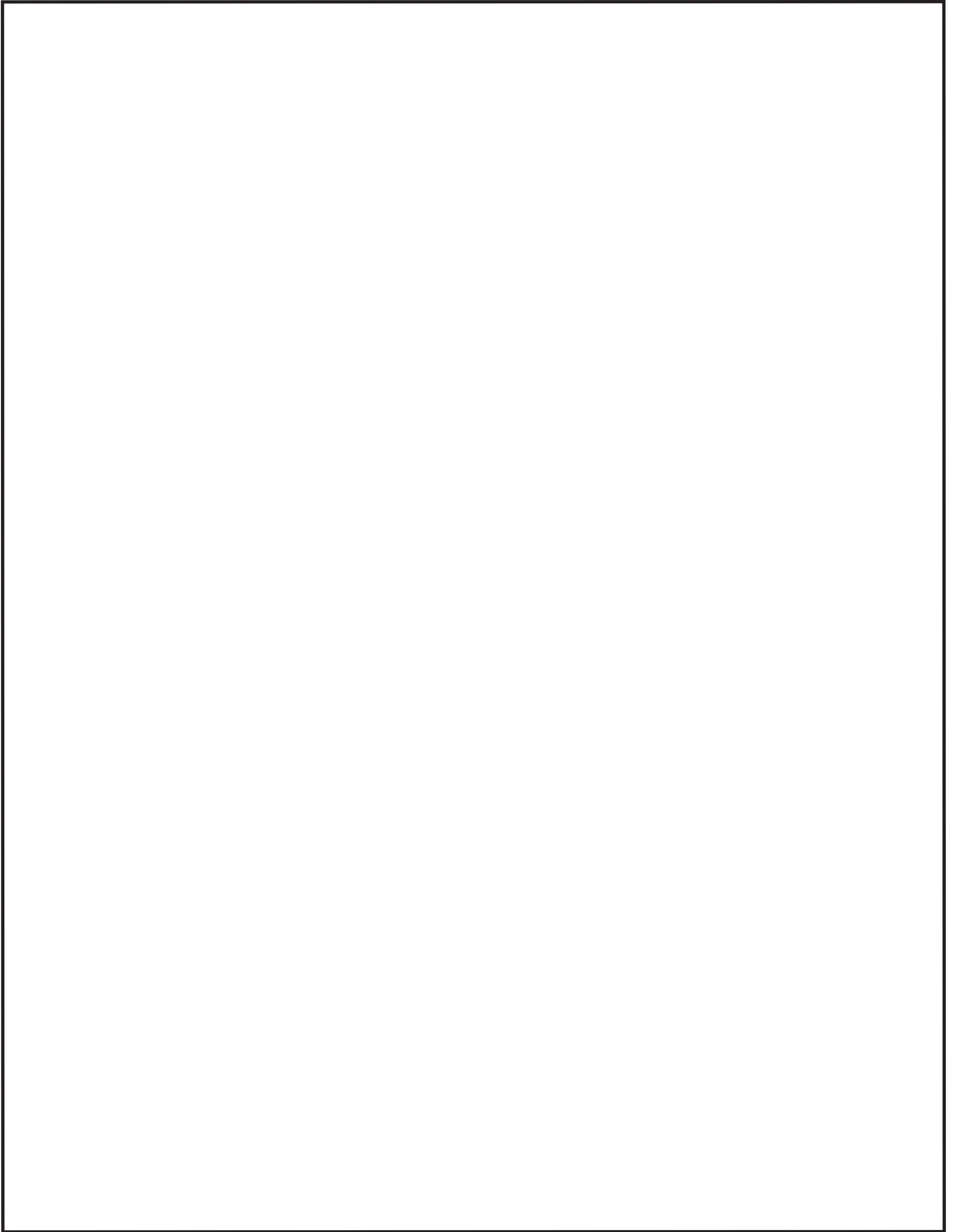
Contract reductions and savings due to elementary start time change.

#### € BOCES Career & Tech Ed Reduced

#### € BOCES Summer School Eliminated

#### € Contractual Expenses Reduced

#### € Equipment/Miscellaneous Reductions



# 2012-13 Proposed Budget

Description	2011-12 Final Budget	2012-13 Adopted Budget	Difference from 2011-12
Board of Education Includes operational expenses, district clerk, district meetings, etc.	\$59,766	\$65,018	\$5,252
Central Administration Includes operational expenses and salaries for all staff in the office of the Superintendent.	361,319	338,266	-23,053
Finance Includes expenses for accounting, treasurer, purchasing, and fiscal advisors.	793,252	757,268	-35,984

# 2012-13 Proposed Budget

## Revenues

Description	2011-12 Final Budget	2012-13 Adopted Budget	Difference from 2011-12
State Aid	\$31,721,230	\$32,889,398	\$1,168,168
Federal Jobs Fund	668,093	0	-668,093
Other Revenue	3,083,538	2,737,410	-346,128
This revenue comes from areas such as interest income, rental of facilities, tuition and other fees.			
MTA Tax Reimbursement	175,406	0	-175,406
Applied Surplus (FUND BALANCE)	1,942,900	1,942,900	0
Appropriated Reserves	1,726,661	1,626,983	-99,678
Tax Levy	64,611,811	68,451,313	3,839,502
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$103,929,639</b>	<b>\$107,648,004</b>	<b>\$3,718,365</b>
Tax Rate Per \$100 Assessed Value	\$18.266	\$19.351	\$1.085
Tax Rate/Tax Levy Increase	6.71%	5.94%	
Total Assessed Value	353,736,700	353,736,700	0
Homestead Assessed Value	314,491,655	314,491,655	0
Non-Homestead Assessed Value	39,245,045	39,245,045	0

## Sample Tax Bill

The total school tax is based upon the school tax rate and the assessed value of your home. If your home's assessed value does not change and the budget is approved, your school tax will increase by 5.94% next year.



This is the Assessed Value. In our district, the average home's Assessed Value is \$40,000, according



Why is a 9-period day important to students and staff?

Most high schools on Long Island have 9-period days, giving students the flexibility to build schedules that best meet their individual needs in the context of rigorous (and expanding) state requirements for instruction. Fewer periods means less schedule flexibility and a larger number of students not being able to get the courses they need. From an educator's perspective, implementation of the 8-period day offers a decline in instructional opportunities.

What are the cost drivers that make it difficult to achieve a budget within the tax cap?

School districts are staff-driven organizations, with roughly 80% of costs typically devoted to salaries and benefits. These costs are the principal driver of the budget increase in 2012-13. Over time, school officials believe that these costs cannot be reconciled with the revenue limitations of the property tax cap. The need to offer relief to taxpayers must be addressed contractually.

What will approval of the school budget with a 5.94% tax levy cost, and how much different is this

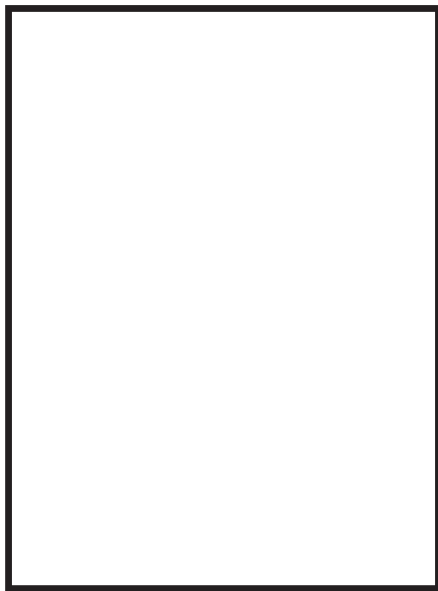
from a tax levy cap budget if the first vote is not successful?

In our district, the average assessed value is \$40,000 (not your market value). For this home, the proposed 5.94% levy increase budget will cost \$416 more for the year, or \$35 more per month. The tax cap budget with a 3.23% levy increase will cost this same home about \$226 more for the year, or almost \$19 more per month. Therefore, the difference between

# EAST ISLIP SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS



- The tremendous performing arts talents of each school were showcased in a year-round array of musicals, plays, and concerts, demonstrating the excellence of East Islip's music and arts programs.
- Nine fall and four winter high school athletic teams earned NYSPHSAA Scholar-Athlete Team Awards, and four winter teams were league/division champs (including the undefeated girls varsity bowling team).
- Timber Point Elementary was nominated as a Blue Ribbon National School.
- East Islip's musicians recognized for excellence, with students from each of East Islip's six schools selected to perform in SCMEA divisional performing ensembles.
- Connetquot Chords chorus group performed at Radio City Music Hall in NYC.
- Varsity teams had numerous student-athletes selected for All-League,



All-Conference, and All-County status, and one student-athlete was named All-American and Long Island Player of the Year.

- In the PTA Reflections art contest, eight talented middle school students won for literature and visual arts, RCK artists submitted a remarkable 28 entries, and a high school student won at the county level with a prize-winning photo.
- The proud Redmen varsity football team made it to the Suffolk County championship game.
- The high school Academic Team continued its remarkable showing on MSG Varsity's "The Challenge" quiz show.
- The high school newspaper, *The Broadcaster*, was again honored for excellence in journalism, winning a total of four 2012 Quill Awards.



- Both the high school and middle school kickline teams won championships.
- A seventh grader was nominated to attend the Junior National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, D.C.



# EAST ISLIP SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS

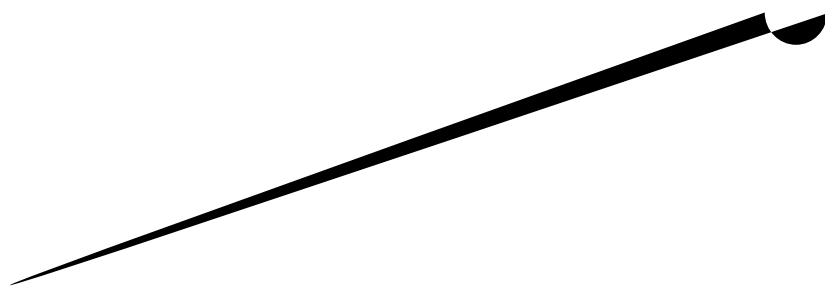


- The Class of 2012 has been offered hundreds of thousands of dollars in college scholarships to date, and seniors have already been accepted to a multitude of prestigious colleges and universities, including: Cornell, Cooper Union, Notre Dame, Brown, University of Virginia, RIT, Syracuse, NYU, Colgate, Boston College, SUNY Potsdam Crane School of Music, James Madison, Binghamton, Virginia Tech, Babson, Emerson, Fordham, WPI, Adelphi, Roger Williams, Drexel, Temple, Dowling, Penn State, Marist, Geneseo, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Towson, Siena, Northeastern, St. John's, Pace, Concord, FIT, Molloy, Briarcliffe, Alfred, Hofstra, Villanova, Sacred Heart, Quinnipiac, Iona, Seton Hall, Utica, C.W. Post LIU, Mercy, St. Joseph's, Stonehill, Flagler, Hartwick, Mount St. Mary, Bryant, Loyola, Dean, Stevenson, Franklin Pierce, Hunter, Maryland Institute College of Art, Arcadia, Emmanuel, Husson, Marquette, Bloomsburg, Manhattanville, Keene, Johnson & Wales, Scranton, Campbell, LeMoyne, University of Michigan, Fitchburg, Stony Brook, Drew, NYIT, Salisbury, Buffalo State, Messiah, University of Tampa, Houghton, New Paltz, Monmouth, Rider, Coastal Carolina, and Berklee College of Music.

- Six high school musicians were chosen to perform at All-State Conference, 21 students were selected for the NYSCAME All-County music festival, and five orchestra performers were chosen for the Long Island String Festival.
- The high school's salutatorian was chosen as a United States Presidential Scholar candidate.
- Two seniors were honored in the National Hispanic Recognition Program.
- A middle school student received the 2011 County Executive Youth Achievement Award for East Islip.



- The high school's Environment Green and Global Business Career Academies continued to thrive, with a third Medical and Health Technology Career Academy on the way; 19 students in the Environment Green Career Academy were selected as finalists at Dowling College's Long Island Youth Summit Competition.

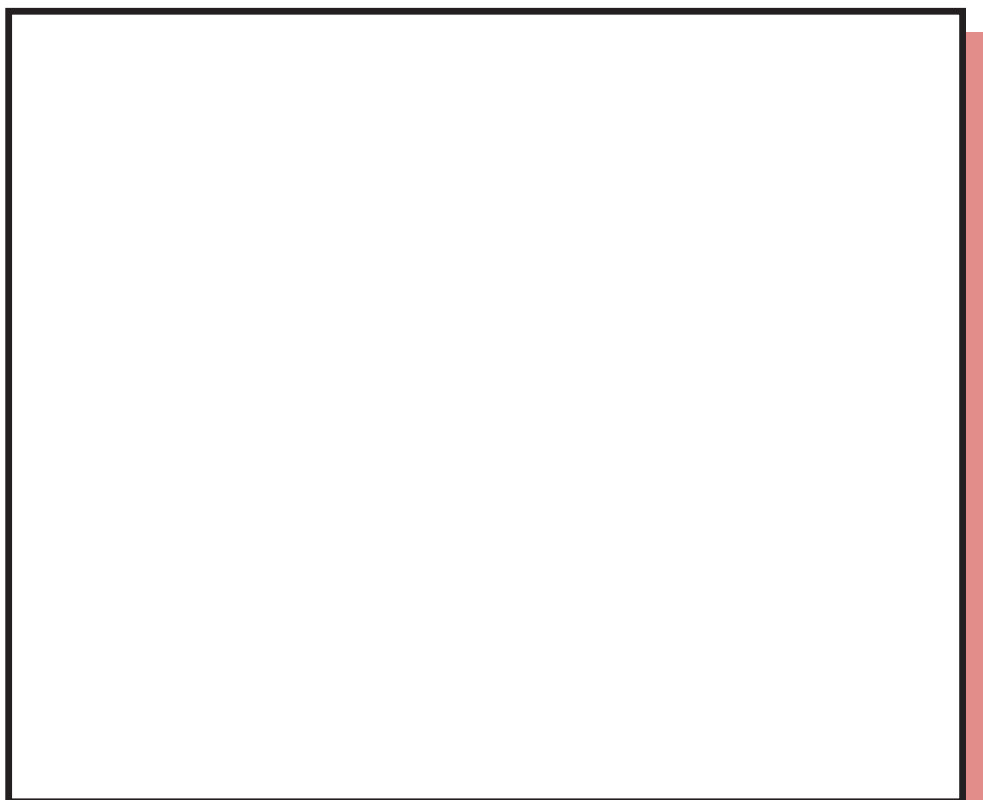


# EAST ISLIP SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS EXCEL!

- Six Connetquot students participated in Brookhaven National Laboratory's prestigious Science Fair.
- Five JFK music students participated in the SCMEA PEAK fest.
- The high school's Mock Trial Team placed second in Suffolk County during the statewide tournament.
- A high school student video won "Best in Show" at the Long Island Media Arts Show.



- Students throughout the district were involved in community service projects and charity events such as recycling initiatives, holiday food drives, visits to veterans, shopping for the homeless, cancer and diabetes fundraising, blood drives, assisting seniors with Medicare, and sending care packages to marines in Afghanistan; and hundreds of middle school and high school students volunteered in sports and mentoring programs, as well as at fundraising events that benefited children with special needs.



# SAMPLE BALLOT

Voters will experience a new ballot system this year at the polls. In the interest of awareness, we are presenting this sample ballot.

## Side One:

### PROPOSITION NO. 1

Adoption of this budget requires a tax levy increase of \$ 3,839,502 which exceeds the statutory

## Side Two:



# PLEASE STRIP IN INDICIAS



Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 6  
Islip Terrace, NY 11752

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 6  
Great River, NY 11739