

HOLMDEL TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL BUDGET 2010-2011

Message from the Board President and Superintendent...

The Holmdel Township Public School's annual school budget supports the education of our community's children. Our district has long been an acknowledged leader in providing a quality education for its students in a fiscally responsible manner. This year we received an outstanding rating from the State on QSAC: Quality Single Accountability Continuum. In the five areas of school function, Operations, Instruction and Programs, Governance, Fiscal Management, and Personnel, we received rave reviews - 493 points out of 500! In addition, we are proud to announce that seven (7) Holmdel High School students (Class of 2010) have just been named National Merit Scholars.

In developing the 2010-11 budget, most of which is funded by local property taxes, the Board and administration were very mindful of the difficult economic times we are all experiencing. Last month, our schools suffered an unexpected \$2.5 million reduction in state aid. Attempting to offset such a significant loss has been extremely challenging, and many tough and painful cuts have been made, including a 16-count across-the-board reduction in personnel (impacting one (1) administrator, six (6) teachers and nine (9) non-certified staff) for a savings of over \$700,000. Moreover, the Board has asked all staff to accept a salary freeze for the 2010-11 school year. To date, the administrators have responded favorably.

The state would have allowed Holmdel to increase their school budget by as much as 11.5% due to the reduced state aid and the increase in state health care premiums. However, a deliberate choice was made to not exercise our budgetary cap waiver options so as to not further burden our local taxpayers. The budget presented by the Board of Education puts forth a 3.5% increase over last year.

We respectfully submit our proposed 2010-11 School Year budget. This budget takes into consideration our community's pleas for more taxpayer relief without significantly compromising the quality of education that this community expects for its children.

You, the district voters, now have the opportunity to decide on the fate of the proposed budget. Please make every effort to vote on April 20th, 2-9 p.m., at your polling location. Your vote will determine who serves on the Board of Education and, through the general fund tax levy, the level of financial support provided for your children's education.

Despite the fiscal challenges that lie ahead, the Holmdel Board of Education remains committed, faithful stewards of our young people's education and the public purse.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our school district.

Sincerely,



Ray Tai, Board President



Barbara Duncan, Superintendent of Schools



HIGH ACHIEVEMENT

NJASK

The New Jersey Department of Education administers the New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJASK) test each spring to students in Grades 3-8, and the High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA) in Grade 11. The results in grades four, eight and eleven provide a snapshot of our achievement based on the New Jersey Core Content Curriculum Standards in Language Arts and Mathematics. Below please find a chart that compares our levels of proficiency with the state and other districts in our District Factor Group (DFG) I*. We are proud of the achievement that our students have demonstrated on the state assessments.

➤ *March 2009 % Passing*

	L/A Lit	Math	Science		L/A Lit	Math	Science
NJ ASK 8	97	90	96	NJ ASK 5	86	90	-
NJ ASK 7	90	88	-	NJ ASK 4	81	85	97
NJ ASK 6	88	84	-	NJ ASK 3	79	84	-

➤ *NJASK: How We Compare*

Grade 4	LA	Math	Grade 8	LA	Math	Grade 11	LA	Math
Holmdel	81	85	Holmdel	97	90	Holmdel	97	94
DFG I	80	86	DFG I	93	86	DFG I	94	82
State Target	63	73	State Target	72	71	State Target	84	73

Holmdel High School

➤ **2008-2009 SAT Results**

Comparable Averages

	<u>Holmdel</u>	<u>DFG I Districts</u>	<u>State</u>
Verbal	598	549	494
Math	624	574	515
Essay	594	553	494

➤ **National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test**

(Class of 2009)

National Merit Scholars	2
Finalists	13
Commended	39

➤ **Advanced Placement Exams - May 2009**

256 students took a total of 704 Advanced Placement exams with 91% of the students scoring 3, 4 or 5. The school AP average grade is 4.0.

➤ **High School Proficiency Assessment**

March 2009 % Passing

Language Arts/Literacy	97.7
Mathematics	94.4

➤ **Placement of Graduates -- Class of 2009**

Four-year colleges 86.5 %
 Two-year colleges 12 %
 Employment 1.5 %
 Total College Placement 98.5 %

*District Factor Groups (DFG) I – is a State system of categorizing districts based on several factors including district socio-economic status and level of education completed by community members. Its purpose is to enable comparisons of student performance on statewide assessments across demographically similar school districts.

HOW WE COMPARE... AVERAGE COST PER PUPIL

2009-2010 Comparative Cost Per Pupil	Holmdel	Monmouth County	Statewide
Total Cost	\$13,838	\$15,992	\$13,860
Total Classroom Instruction	7,476	8,806	8,140
Total Administrative Cost	1,155	1,435	1,397
◆ Holmdel had the third lowest total cost per pupil in Monmouth County K-12 operating districts with 1801-3500 students.			
◆ Holmdel had the second lowest total classroom instruction cost per pupil in Monmouth County K-12 operating districts with 1801-3500 students.			
◆ Holmdel had the lowest total administrative cost per pupil in Monmouth County K-12 operating districts with 1801-3500 students.			
Source: NJ Department of Education Comparative Spending Guide 2010 (K-12 districts with 1801-3500 students)			

LOW PER PUPIL COSTS

<u>Category*</u>	<u>Holmdel</u>	<u>State Average</u>
Total Per Pupil Spending	\$13,838	\$13,860
Total Classroom Instruction	7,476	8,140
Classroom Salary & Benefits	7,175	7,654
General Supplies & Textbooks Per Pupil	207	290
Classroom Purchased Services	93	196
Total Support Services Per Pupil	2,494	2,224
Support Salaries & Benefits	2,275	1,980
Total Administrative Cost Per Pupil	1,155	1,397
Administrative Salaries/Benefits Per Pupil	934	1,141

HIGH EFFICIENCY RATIOS

<u>Category*</u>	<u>Holmdel</u>	<u>State Average</u>
Student to Teacher Ratio	13.0 to 1	12.4 to 1
Teacher to Administrator Ratio	15.5 to 1	15.2 to 1
Student to Administrator Ratio	175.7 to 1	162.2 to 1

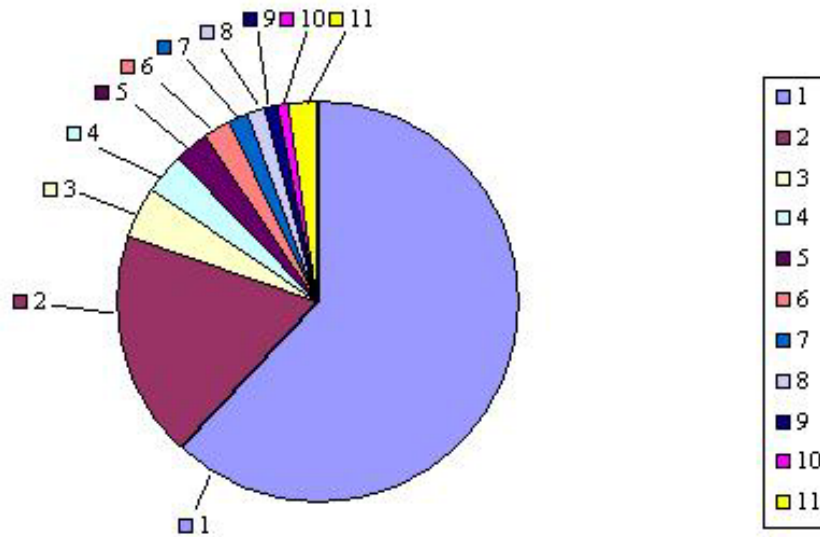
*Source N.J. Department of Education Comparative Spending Guide 2010 (K-12 districts with 1801—3,500 students)

COST-SAVING MEASURES

To promote economies and efficiencies, the District performs numerous services in-house—as opposed to using more costly outside contracted services; for example, asbestos remediation, plumbing, HVAC, and electrical. Moreover, the District participates in a number of federal, state, county, and local consortiums and shared services, specifically:

- ◆ Alliance for Competitive Telecommunications (ACT)
- ◆ Alliance for Competitive Energy Services (ACES)
- ◆ Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI)
- ◆ E-rate Discounts for Telecommunications/Internet Service
- ◆ Agreement with Township for fuel purchases, maintenance of related equipment, and central office cleaning services
- ◆ Agreement with Township to provide Drug and Alcohol Coordinator
- ◆ Agreement with Township for use of facilities for recreation
- ◆ Monmouth County Improvement Authority to secure low lease/purchase interest rates
- ◆ Educational Data Systems (EDS) Consortium for supply purchases at reduced prices
- ◆ Health Insurance through the State Health Benefits Plan
- ◆ State Health Benefits Opt-Out Plan
- ◆ Energy Conservation Program

GENERAL FUND BUDGET BY MAJOR EXPENSE CATEGORY



	<u>Proposed 2010-2011 Percentage</u>	<u>Proposed 2010-2011 Budget</u>	<u>2009-2010 Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
1 Salaries	61.9%	31,871,312	32,797,041	(925,729)
2 Benefits	18.2%	9,371,995	7,769,591	1,602,404
3 Utilities	4.4%	2,256,032	2,378,709	(122,677)
4 Transportation Expenses	3.3%	1,718,320	1,764,427	(46,107)
5 Out-of-District Tuition	2.7%	1,381,190	1,361,902	19,288
6 Buildings & Grounds Expenses	2.2%	1,116,086	976,605	139,481
7 Instruction Supplies/Textbooks	1.8%	914,366	691,396	222,970
8 Mandated Professional Services	1.3%	675,050	758,530	(83,480)
9 Lease Obligations	1.0%	532,822	647,790	(114,968)
10 Insurance	0.9%	442,701	417,293	25,408
11 Other Expenses*	<u>2.3%</u>	<u>1,168,654</u>	<u>1,307,027</u>	<u>(138,373)</u>
Total Costs	100.0%	51,448,528	50,870,311	578,217

Explanation of Variance

1	(925,729)	Decrease predominately due to staffing reductions and ARRA ESY offset
2	1,602,404	Increase in State Health Benefits Plan premiums
3	(122,677)	Decrease due to savings from energy conservation program
4	(46,107)	Decrease due to reduction in fuel costs
5	19,288	Increase due to additional out of district placements for regular education students net of ARRA tuition offset
6	139,481	Increase due to required school maintenance
7	222,970	Increase in textbooks due to new core curriculum content standards
8	(83,480)	Decrease due to reduction in Special Services Consultant
9	(114,968)	Decrease due to deferred shared central office/library construction project, net of new state assessment of existing bond interest
10	25,408	Increase in property insurance premiums
11	<u>(138,373)</u>	Decrease predominately due to reduction in health services (ARRA offset), printing/copier costs, and professional development/workshops
	578,217	Total

*(Professional Development/Workshops, Professional Memberships/Dues, Extracurricular and Athletic Supplies/Materials, Health Services, and Non-Instructional Supplies/Materials).

GENERAL FUND BUDGET

Total General Fund Budget: This represents a 1.14% (\$578K) increase from the 2009-2010 budget	\$51,448,528
Offsets to the General Fund:	
State Aid: The District receives minimal support from the State of New Jersey. In the last budget year (2009-2010) the district received \$2,936,766 in State Aid. This amount reflects an impact of the 86.5% (\$2.5 million) reduction in State Aid.	396,303
Extraordinary Aid: This represents the estimated 2010-2011 budget amount.	269,058
Federal Aid: Medicare reimbursement (SEMI)	8,228
Miscellaneous: This predominately represents income from facility usage fees, pre-school tuition, non-resident student tuition, and interest income.	400,000
Fund Balance: Under current legislation (A1/S1701), a district's reserve fund balance may not exceed 2% of actual current year expenditures. As a result of savings realized from the district's energy conservation program and ARRA IDEA funds (\$568K), additional extraordinary aid (09-10 \$929K, 08-09 \$686K), careful monitoring and no significant emergency expenditures, we anticipate having additional funds in excess of this 2% maximum in 2009-2010. Accordingly, these monies will be used to fund the 2010-2011 budget.	2,182,873
THIS IS THE TAX LEVY BALLOT QUESTION: This represents a 3.5% (\$1.6 million) increase from the 2009-2010 budget.	\$48,192,066

TAX INCREASE

+ 6.62¢	Tax Rate impact due to reduction in State Aid
<u>(2.38)¢</u>	Tax Rate impact from 2010-2011 Budget decisions (position cuts, energy conservation, ARRA offsets, and one time extraordinary aid benefit)
= 4.24¢	Total Tax Rate Increase
	4.24¢ per \$100 of Assessed Value

Average Residential Assessment	Annual Increased Cost	Monthly Cost
\$615,686	\$261.05	\$21.75

*Note, as a result of the significant number of appeals since the 2007 revaluation, the County Tax Board authorized a re-assessment of all real estate in Holmdel Township for the 2010 year. The re-assessment will adjust all values to the 10/1/09 market value.

**FOR FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND MORE
INFORMATION ON THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL BUDGET,
PLEASE VISIT THE DISTRICT WEBSITE AT:
www.holmdelschools.org**

Questions?

Feel free to call us any
time with your questions:

Mrs. Barbara Duncan
Superintendent of Schools
946-1800 x22

Mr. Michael R. Petrizzo, CPA
Business Administrator/
Board Secretary
946-1800 x18

Mrs. Mary Beth Currie
Assistant
Superintendent for C & I
946-1800 x23

Ms. Meryl Gill
Director of
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946-1186

Mr. Peter Mikos
Asst. Business Administrator/
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946-1800 x14

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www.holmdelschools.org

**REMEMBER TO
VOTE**

APRIL 20, 2010

2:00PM—9:00PM

POLLING LOCATIONS

Districts 1, 2, 4 and 10

Senior/Community Center

Crawfords Corner Road adjacent to Town Hall

District 3

Town Hall

4 Crawfords Corner Road

Districts 5 and 9

Village School

67 McCampbell Road

Districts 6, 7 and 8

William R. Satz School

24 Crawfords Corner Road

Please note the change in polling locations for Districts 4 and 9.

The Newsletter

Holmdel Township Board of Education
P.O. Box 407
Holmdel, NJ 07733

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Holmdel, NJ 07733**