



---

Administration Building • 13A Dickinson Avenue • Nyack, NY 10960 • (845) 353-7000  
Phone: (845)353-7015 • Fax: (845) 353-0508 • Email: [vdouglas@nyackschools.com](mailto:vdouglas@nyackschools.com)

---

Valencia F. Douglas, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

March 17, 2009

Re: **PROPOSED 2009-10 BUDGET**

Dear Nyack School Community,

While every year it is difficult to balance the educational needs of our students with the fiscal responsibility to community taxpayers, the country's fiscal crisis has made this year particularly challenging. On March 17 I presented the proposed 2009-10 budget to the Board and public after months of assessment of our needs and intense deliberation.

Being mindful of our taxpayers' critical financial constraints, the budget includes important efficiency and staffing consolidation measures that involved some difficult decisions. We were able to maintain all educational programs to ensure that students continue to receive a rigorous education, but hard choices had to be made between wants and needs, as well as parting ways with some of our very valued colleagues. Below are the major budget personnel highlights.

**Eliminated positions:**

- Director of Physical Education, Health, Wellness and Athletics (restructured)
- Director of Technology
- Supervisor for ESL
- MS Supervisor of Student Affairs (replaced with a .5 Dean)
- 1 ESL teacher
- 1 elementary Spanish teacher
- Elementary level Lead Teachers
- Teaching Assistants (7 – 14 dependent on discussions with the bargaining unit to mitigate impact)
- 1 clerical position in the Facilities Office & 1 part time HS clerical position

**In addition:**

- Salaries of the Superintendent and the Central Office Administrators are frozen for next year
- Reduction in Athletics' costs
- Elimination of HS & MS inactive co-curricular clubs
- Reduction in materials & supplies at each building

***The bottom line for the budget is a .54% budget to budget increase and a 2.9% estimated tax levy increase. This increase is below the 4% increase that an austerity budget can be if the budget is not approved.***

Our heartfelt appreciation to our colleagues, who are affected by these necessary budget cuts, for your dedication to our District's children and goals. You have touched many lives in the District and we wish you well. Also, thanks to staff who have made personal sacrifices with salary freezes. You have made an important contribution to this community.

The budget presentation, the budget, and the meeting's podcast will be on our website, [www.nyackschools.com](http://www.nyackschools.com) within a couple of days. The budget adoption is on April 21 and the vote is on May 19. Your questions are welcome and your understanding and cooperation during this period of change is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Valencia F. Douglas, Ed.D.