



# The Vision

## Budget Newsletter

Late Spring 2019

*A special budget newsletter for residents of the Gettysburg Area School District*



### James Gettys students get creative for school activity

As part of the "One Book, One School" program, students at James Gettys Elementary read *Mistakes That Worked*. The book details 40 inventions and the paths each one took to become a reality. During their morning meeting time, students re-created some of these inventions in class.

### Gettysburg Area High School students create 3D device for area woman

Under the direction of technology teacher Stan Licharowicz, engineering students Adam Thomas and Garrett Young created a device using a 3D printer for a woman who lost her hand. To learn more and see the video, visit [www.gettysburg.k12.pa.us](http://www.gettysburg.k12.pa.us) and scroll down to the Vision Newsletter link.



### Gettysburg Area Middle School students take home writing awards

Students clinched 3 of 6 spots for the AuthorShip writing contest from Shippensburg University. Kim Heinzelmann, left, won 1st place in fiction. Carolyn Scheungrab, center, won first place with her essay and Blayne Miller won 2nd place in fiction.



### Superintendent's Message

Greetings from the Gettysburg Area School District! Spring has sprung, and the season of weather delays and cancellations is behind us for another year. May is an exciting time in our district schools, as we celebrate the successes of our students and faculties over the past school year, while also planning for the school year that lies ahead.

Quality public schools rely on the support of strong communities that value education. We are fortunate in Gettysburg to have the ongoing support of a strong community that allows our district to meet our mission for each and every student. Our Mission: "Gettysburg Area School District, in partnership with the family and community, is dedicated to excellence and committed to maximizing every student's opportunity to reach their full potential for achievement. Our purpose is to provide a safe and healthy environment in which all students can

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### Just moved into the district?

Visit the **New Residents** page at [www.gettysburg.k12.pa.us/new-residents](http://www.gettysburg.k12.pa.us/new-residents)

# 2019-20 Proposed Budget Revenues & Expenses

**REVENUES:** Local real estate taxes are expected to be \$29,954,836 which is 1.8% more than last year. This is due to assessment changes, an adjustment to the projected collection rate, and a 0.1287 mill rate increase, (1.18%), which is about half of the 2.3% Act 1 index for 2019-20. Overall, local revenue sources are up \$1,313,924 or 3.1% over last year.

State revenues for the school district are expected to increase by 3.3% overall. This is primarily due to increased PSERS (retirement) subsidy of \$228,375, which covers only about one-half our increased cost for that required plan, and a projected Basic Education Funding increase of \$410,152. The state budget has not yet been finalized and is subject to change by the legislature. Federal revenues are expected to increase by 6.2% or \$64,597 from last year.

Overall revenues and uses of fund balance are projected to increase 3.2% over last year. This includes a planned use of \$595,240 of the PSERS committed fund balance, which is a long-term plan established to mitigate the impacts of very significant rate increases. To balance the budget, \$3,703,815 of the unassigned general fund balance is needed. This is the equivalent of 1.3649 mills of real estate taxes, and is being used

to reduce the need for higher tax rates.

**EXPENSES:** Payroll and benefits account for 60.5% of the expense budget. Staffing levels and programming are continually reviewed to achieve optimum utilization for minimum cost. Payroll expenses are projected to increase \$508,412 or 2.2% over the prior year. Benefits are projected to be 3.1% more than last year. It should be noted this is the 4th year of funding an additional \$300,000 per year for future facility improvement projects (FIP) and \$1,200,000 is now included for those needs.

Another way of looking at expenses is by expense function rather than object. When looking at expenses by function the direct instructional expenses make up 57.3% of the budget, support services expenses (library, guidance, nurses, & admin.) 28.1%, non-instructional expenses (student activities & athletics) 2.1% and other/financing expenses (debt services) 12.5%.

The District continues to implement cost saving ideas through efficiency, new technology, joint and bulk purchasing, and more. Overall the budget is projected to increase \$2,291,483 or 3.5% over last year.

For more information and updates on projected revenues, costs and cost-saving efforts, please see our budget information at [www.gettysburg.k12.pa.us](http://www.gettysburg.k12.pa.us) or contact the Business Office at 717-334-6254, ext. 1226.

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learn. We embrace our responsibility in developing a caring school community that enables all students to become active and productive members of our diverse and ever-changing global society." We thank each of you for supporting the learning experiences of the young people of our district; we could not do it without you.

As we continue to focus on creating a pathway for each student to graduate from the Gettysburg Area School District prepared for their post-secondary experiences; we take great pride in the many curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular opportunities that are available in our district. Each of these experiences are available based in large part to the financial support we receive from you, our district residents. We will always strive to provide a quality public education for the students of our community, while being respectful of the community's resources.

I personally thank you for your ongoing support of quality public education in our community, and for making the Gettysburg Area School District "A Great Place to Learn".

- Jason Perrin, D.Ed., Superintendent

## Figure Your School Taxes

You will need your most recent assessment notice or your March 1, 2019 County/Township tax bill.

Multiply the Assessed Value of your property by 0.0110384

Assessed Value: \_\_\_\_\_  
Millage Rate:        x 0.0110384

Your Tax        \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Less: Homestead Exclusion of about \$166 (if applicable)  
Less: Farmstead Exclusion of about \$166 (if applicable)

**Your Net Tax \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

## Important Dates

**June 3, 2019 | 7 p.m.**  
Public Budget Hearing & Regular Board Meeting

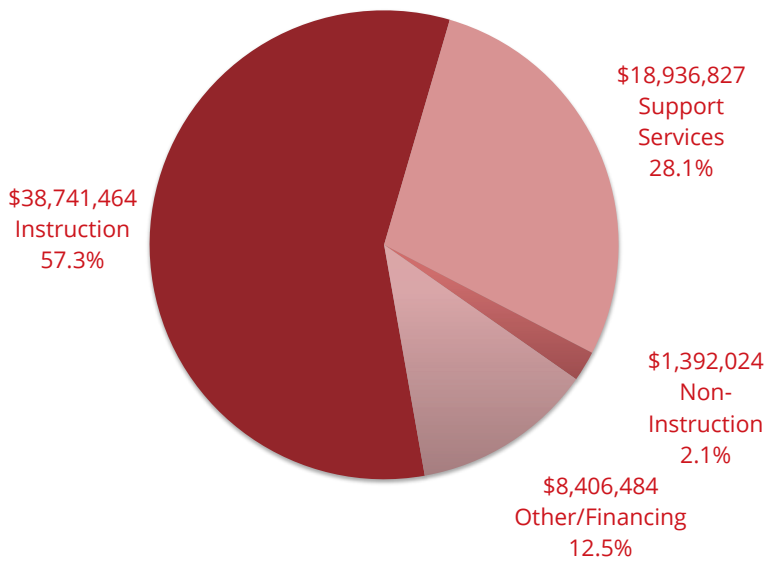
**June 17, 2019 | 7 p.m.**  
Regular Board Meeting & Final vote on budget

**Administration Building**  
900 Biglerville Road, Gettysburg

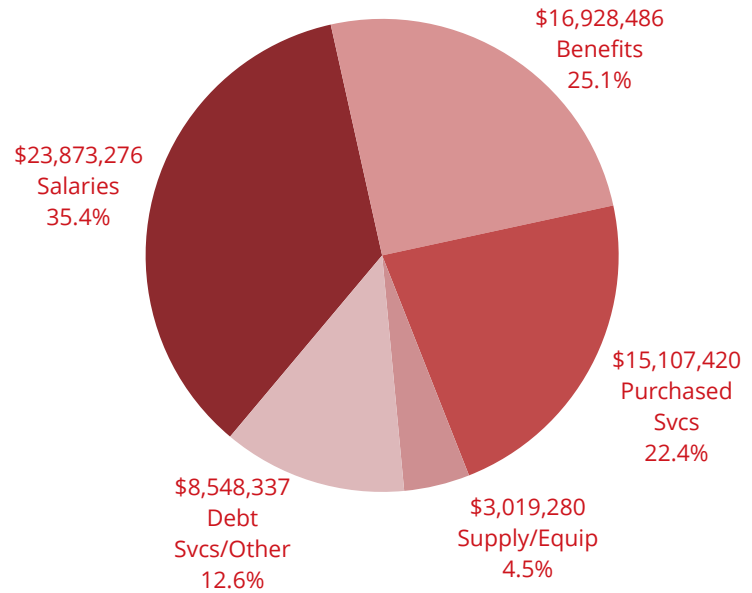
Check out district happenings on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram



**2019-20 Expenses By Function**  
Total Expense Budget is \$67,476,799



**2019-20 Expenses By Object**  
Total Expense Budget is \$67,476,799



**GASD Proposed 2019-20 Budget**

	Final Budget 2018-19	Proposed Budget 2019-20	Change From Prior Year \$	%	% of Total Proposed Budget
Beginning Unassigned Fund Balance (UFB)	\$9,515,216	\$9,065,216	(450,000) *	-4.73%	
Committed FB for 18/19 Budget Shortfall	3,388,591		(3,388,591)	-100.00%	
<b>Total Beg UFB &amp; CFB for 18/19 Shortfall</b>	<b>12,903,807</b>	<b>9,065,216</b>	<b>(3,838,591)</b>	<b>-29.75%</b>	
<b>Revenues &amp; Other Sources:</b>					
Local Sources	\$41,740,917	\$43,054,841	1,313,924	3.15%	67.51%
State Sources	18,401,785	19,011,734	609,949	3.31%	29.81%
Federal Sources	1,044,572	1,109,169	64,597	6.18%	1.74%
Other Sources	2,000	2,000	0	0.00%	0.00%
Use of PSERS Committed Funds	607,451	595,240	(12,211)	-2.01%	0.93%
<b>Total Revenues &amp; Other Sources</b>	<b>\$61,796,725</b>	<b>\$63,772,984</b>	<b>1,976,259</b>	<b>3.20%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>					
Salaries and Wages	\$23,364,864	\$23,873,276	508,412	2.18%	35.38%
Employee Benefits	16,411,632	16,928,486	516,854	3.15%	25.09%
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>39,776,496</b>	<b>40,801,762</b>	<b>1,025,266</b>	<b>2.58%</b>	<b>60.47%</b>
Purchased Services	14,768,343	15,107,420	339,077	2.30%	22.39%
Supplies, Property, & Equipment	3,133,708	3,019,280	(114,428)	-3.65%	4.47%
Other Objects & Financing Uses	7,506,769	8,548,337	1,041,568	13.88%	12.67%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$65,185,316</b>	<b>\$67,476,799</b>	<b>2,291,483</b>	<b>3.52%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Decrease in Unassigned Fund Balance</b>					
General Fund - Per Budget	(3,388,591)	(3,703,815)	(315,224)	9.30%	
<b>Ending Unassigned Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$9,515,216</b>	<b>\$5,361,401</b>	<b>(4,153,815)</b>	<b>-43.65%</b>	
*Transfer for facility improvements					
<i>Real Estate Tax Rate (mills):</i>	<i>10.9097</i>	<i>11.0384</i>	<i>0.1287</i>	<i>1.18%</i>	

Gettysburg Area School District  
900 Biglerville Road  
Gettysburg, PA 17325  
717-334-6254  
[www.gettysburg.k12.pa.us](http://www.gettysburg.k12.pa.us)

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## #GASDisGreat

### Franklin Township Elementary School "Looks for the Good"

As part of the schoolwide positive behavior support and the chosen theme for the year, Franklin Township Elementary School promoted 'Look for the Good' and in October, launched a 'Look for the Good' gratitude campaign.

Everyone learned that each circumstance offers a silver lining and a lesson to be learned and an opportunity to grow. They also learned that gratitude starts with having the right attitude, specifically an attitude of gratitude.

### Lincoln Elementary School participates in "DEAR" Drop Everything and Read Day

Students at Lincoln Elementary School participated in DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) Day. Students completed a science lesson learning about shark teeth before having a story read to them and choosing a book to take home.

*Visit*

***[www.gettysburg.k12.pa.us](http://www.gettysburg.k12.pa.us)  
for more stories like these.***



### Middle school student clinches top spot in the state during geography bee

Gettysburg Area Middle School eighth-grader Ben Fischer competed against 100 other students in the PA State National Geographic geography bee. After eleven rounds of competition with extremely challenging questions, Ben won first place!

As the state geography bee champion, Fischer will travel to the national competition in Washington, D.C. GAMS is very proud of Ben and amazed at his geography knowledge.

### High school student headed to national competition

Gettysburg Area High School senior Mary Heaton qualified to compete in Original Oratory in the National Speech & Debate Association's competition in Dallas, Texas in June.

At Bradley University's High School Speech and Debate tournament held the first weekend in December 2018, Heaton placed 1st in Original Oratory thus winning their prestigious \$15,000 scholarship! She will attend Bradley University this fall.



## Vision Statement

The Gettysburg Area School District provides a safe and caring learning environment where students develop skills to learn in an ever-changing world and accept responsibility to use these skills to achieve and graduate ready to learn, work, serve and succeed in today's world and in a world we cannot yet define or imagine.