

2011-2012 DISTRICT BUDGET UPDATE
WHARTON SCHOOL DISTRICT, DUFFY AND MACKINNON SCHOOLS
137 EAST CENTRAL AVENUE, WHARTON, NEW JERSEY 07885

Increase in State Aid/ Expansion of Shared Services Results in
Half a Percent Increase in Budget

- State aid has increased \$247,775. As a result of the increase of state aid, the Wharton Board of Education has prepared an educationally sound budget that increases spending by one half a percent. The tax levy has a 2% increase and is in compliance with the new “tax levy cap law” in New Jersey.
- The new budget is lean, but, at the same time, improves the quality of education provided to our students. We will *not* reduce services to any student. We *will* continue our leading role in shared services, partnering with Mine Hill, Rockaway Borough, Morris Hills Regional District and the Educational Services Commission of Morris County.
- We continue to have one of the lowest administrative costs in Morris County, and one of the lowest costs per pupil based on comparable districts by sharing administrative services.
- The Board of Education has incorporated much needed technology and school security enhancements into the proposed budget.
- The Board of Education has expanded our special education services while reducing out of district special education costs, by creating a PRIDE II program in Wharton. This will enable us to keep our special education students in Wharton, rather than send them to private special education schools.
- The Board of Education has reduced our insurance costs by bidding these services to multiple vendors.
- Thanks to a dedicated staff and a community that values education, our students continue to improve their test scores. Our budget will allow us to continue to achieve program enhancement.
- The average homeowner will have a \$ 11.02 per month or \$132.20 per year increase in Wharton Borough school taxes.

WHERE YOUR SCHOOL TAX DOLLARS GO...

Instructional Costs	49%
Support Services	19%
Maintenance and Buildings & Grounds	8%
Employee Benefits	17%
Administrative Costs	7%

The Superintendent's Message:

The Wharton Board of Education budget for 2011-2012 represents a philosophy. The Board and I believe, that even in the worst economy in decades, we need to preserve and support our classroom teachers and our students.

As a result of an increase in state aid, and the expansion of shared services, the budget does not reduce ANY staff at Duffy or MacKinnon schools.

We will work on a shared service basis to save our taxpayers money. The public may review our budget power point presentation on our website, www.wbps.org.

The proposed budget only increases Wharton Board of Education spending by .5% and complies with the state tax levy cap. The tax impact on the average home in Wharton is \$11.02 per month.

Dr. Ernest Palestis, Interim Superintendent of Schools

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO VOTE APRIL 27, 2010 7AM TIL 9PM
WHARTON BOROUGH MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**Wharton Borough
Public Schools
137 E. Central Ave.
Wharton, NJ 07885
973-361-2592**

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**RESIDENT
WHARTON, NJ 07885**

Administration:

**Dr. Ernest Palestis, Interim Superintendent
Pamela Hinman, Business Admin/Bd. Secretary
Christopher Herdman, Middle School Principal
Pamela Blalock, Elementary School Principal
Alan Bocchino, Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction**

Board of Education:

**Marc Towne, President
William Rogers, Vice-President
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James Gottshall
Stuart Goulden
Socorro Sampson
Theresa Yeager**