

Roosevelt Union Free School District

2020-2021 Budget Introduction

February 26, 2020

It is hard to believe that another budget preparation season is upon us. Since November, the administrative team along with full support from the board of education, has been working on preparing a fiscally and academically sound budget to present to the public. The tax cap law continues to challenge us each year. Currently, our tax levy is at about 2.925% which is within the allowable limit.

Different from prior years, this budget is based on programs, not money. The focus needs to go back to providing the best programs possible for our students, while being cognizant of the tax base of this community. We have maintained all current programs, no cuts, but have included much needed support services to move our students towards greater requirements and skills that they will need in order to be globally competitive.

Some highlights of what are currently included in next year's budget are:

- 4 reading teachers for each of the elementary schools and MS.
- Additional staffing to reduce class sizes.
- Mathematics and ELA/Literacy Directors to strengthen k-12 curriculum, assessments and performance.
- Equitable distribution of supply codes by per pupil allowance

Each budget workshop will shift the focus to programs and functions of the district departments...NOT line by line dollar amounts. We are confident that the budget that is presented before you will continue the process of moving Roosevelt UFSD towards great academic and financial success. There is no nickel and diming of this budget. As it is, it does not contain ALL that is truly needed academically; it is not where we need to be, but it lays the base for a solid foundation on which to build.

We need to bring back students that have chosen to go elsewhere for their education by sharing the pride, commitment and programs that we have and will build upon to lead EVERY child toward a successful, uniquely qualified future. We cannot continue to give up more than \$7 million dollars to charter schools.

We encourage you to attend all of our budget workshops which are posted on the district's homepage and available this evening in hardcopy format. We start on March 11th and continue through April 8th. The final budget adoption date is April 21, 2020 with the vote occurring on May 19, 2020

I thank you for your continued support of our staff, students and board of education. Together, we will assure the brightest future for every single child!