Sullivan West Central School District

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Stephen A. Walker
Superintendent of Schools

Sullivan West Central School District

2020-2021 Proposed Budget

Summary Points

• Unprecedented Time for School Districts
  o Likelihood of reduced State Aid, both for next year and years to follow
  o District relies heavily on State Aid – it is over 40% of our annual funding

• Proposed Budget
  o Adds new electives for High School Students
    ▪ Cybersecurity
    ▪ Natural Resources (first Agriculture elective in Sullivan West)
    ▪ AP and College-level courses (Math, English, Spanish)
  o Creates new structure for our 7th and 8th Grade students
    ▪ Supports students as Middle Schoolers, in a HS building
  o Provides for removal and replacement of Elementary School’s 1994 Gym Floor
    ▪ Recent discovery of mercury leaching from floor
    ▪ Plan to replace old rubber floor with new wood floor
    ▪ State Education Department requires voter approval before project can move forward
  o Eliminates 7 Full-Time Staff Positions
    ▪ 6 of these 7 reductions occur through attrition (not re-hiring staff to replace retiring staff)
    ▪ Include 3 Teacher Aide Positions, 2 Teaching Assistant Positions, 1 Teacher Position, 1 Cleaner Position
  o Impact on Taxpayers
    ▪ 1.98% tax levy increase
      ▪ $126,002 below Sullivan West’s tax levy cap for 2020-2021
      ▪ Lowest tax levy increase in Sullivan West in last 3 years
      ▪ Means $3 - $6/month for the average taxpayer

• This budget will allow Sullivan West to be well positioned, if reductions in State Aid occur during the school year, to minimize further reductions in faculty and staff

• Vote will occur by absentee ballot this year, on June 9, by order of the Governor
  o Ballots must be received by the District by 5:00 pm on June 9 in order to be counted
  o Ballots should arrive by the end of the week, and can be mailed back, or dropped off at the Elementary School or High School. Dates and Times for ballot drop-off are available on the District website at www.swcsd.org

“…enriching the lives of all students”