

Getting involved in Mohonasen's budget process

Budget News in the News

www.mohonasen.org/budget

Make sure to visit our Budget News in the News page to follow the latest in local, state and national news affecting the district's budget and budget development process.

What budget information will you find on our website?

<http://www.mohonasen.org/budget>

- ★ Tax Levy Cap Information
- ★ Up-to-date budget news
- ★ Budget glossary of terms
- ★ Current year tax rates
- ★ STAR program and other exemption information
- ★ Prior year budget information
- ★ Budget development timeline, including public meeting dates
- ★ Vote & Voter Eligibility details
- ★ Line-by-line budget (*when available*)
- ★ Budget questions & answers

Years of declining state aid, budget cuts and now the new property tax levy cap law are posing enormous challenges for public schools. Mohonasen school leaders need to hear from the community to help guide the difficult decisions that will be required.

It is more important than ever to become informed about the complex issues shaping school district budgets and educational programs.

Please get involved this budget season by attending budget and Board of Education meetings, contacting the district with your questions and contacting your elected leaders on these important issues.

Your input and involvement will help shape the future of your school district and your community.

And— whether you've ever done so in the past or not —please remember to vote on your school budget on Tuesday, May 15!

How do I get involved?

- Visit www.mohonasen.org/budget for the most up-to-date information on the district's budget
- Sign up for School News Notifier (SNN) at www.mohonasen.org to receive budget news and information in your e-mail inbox. You can also follow the district on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Mohonasen.
- **Attend as many public budget meetings as possible. Meetings are scheduled for Jan. 30 & Feb. 29 at 6:30 p.m.**
- Ask questions! Just like last year, budget questions and answers will be posted on the district website. To submit a question, e-mail aleon@mohonasen.org, call 356-8250 or attend a public budget meeting.
- Contact your elected leaders (*see back page*).

Now, more than ever, it is imperative that members of the school community get involved in the budget development process.

What do you want your district to look like for future generations?

What level of taxes are you willing to pay?

What budget cuts can you live with? What services can you live without?

These are the questions that will be asked at Mohonasen this year.

Budget Development Timeline

- » *Oct. 12, 2011:* Budget packet distributed to administrators
 - » *Nov. 16, 2011:* Administrators/Supervisors - conceptual/programmatically discussions regarding budget
 - » *Dec. 5, 2011:* Tax Levy Cap Community Presentation, 7 p.m.
 - » *Dec. 19, 2011:* Budget packets due to Assistant Superintendent
 - » *Jan. 19, 2012:* Directors & Principals meet to discuss final budget priorities and focus K-12
 - » **Jan. 30, 2012: Budget Forum, 6:30 p.m.**
 - » **Feb. 29, 2012: Budget Forum, 6:30 p.m.**
 - » *March 1, 2012:* Deadline to submit information to calculate the Tax Levy Limit on the Office of State Comptroller's website
 - » *March 5, 2012:* BOE Meeting/Budget Presentation, 6:30 p.m.: General Support, Operations & Maintenance, Transportation, Athletics & Co-Curricular Activities/Clubs
 - » *March 19, 2012:* BOE Meeting/Budget Presentation, 6:30 p.m.: BOCES, Special Education, Employee Benefits, Guidance, Health/Nurse Services
- Adoption of special propositions for budget in order to be published in Notice of Annual meeting on 3/30, 4/13, 4/27, 5/11
- BOE election petitions available.
- » *March 31, 2012:* Deadline to advertise first legal notice publication of date, time and location of budget hearing and budget vote.
 - » *April 2, 2012:* BOE Meeting/Budget Presentation: Instruction, Revenue, Budget Recap
 - » *April 16, 2012:* Deadline for filing Board Candidate Petitions, 5 p.m. (30 days prior to vote)
 - » *April 20, 2012:* Deadline for 2012-2013 Budget adoption and adoption of Property Tax Report Card
 - » *April 23, 2012:* Deadline to Submit Property Tax Report Card to the State Department of Education
 - » *April 24 - May 1, 2012:* Budget document and notice postcard made available to public
 - » *May 7, 2012:* Budget Hearing & Meet the Candidates Night, 6 p.m.
 - » *May 8, 2012:* Notice to qualified voters of school district mailed
- Deadline (3 p.m.) for receiving application for Absentee Ballots if ballot is to be mailed to voter
- » **May 15, 2012: Uniform Budget Vote Day, District Annual Meeting & Election, 7 a.m.-9 p.m./High School**
- Deadline (5 p.m.) for absentee ballot application for voters who will hand-deliver ballots
- » *May 21, 2012:* Board of Education Meeting, Acceptance of Results of Election of May 15, 2012

Contact your elected leaders

During these difficult budget times, all members of the Mohonasen community are encouraged to contact their elected leaders to voice their opinions on public school funding and mandate relief.

Governor Andrew Cuomo

- <http://www.governor.ny.gov/>
- By phone: (518) 474-8390
- By mail: NYS State Capitol Building, Albany, NY 12224
- By e-mail: Submit through website

Senate Majority Leader Dean Skelos

- <http://www.nysenate.gov/senator/dean-g-skelos>
- By mail: Legislative Office Building, Room 909, Albany, NY 12247
- By phone: (518) 455-3171
- By e-mail: skelos@nysenate.gov

Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver

- <http://assembly.state.ny.us/mem/?ad=064>
- By mail: LOB 932, Albany, NY 12248
- By phone: (518) 455-3791
- By e-mail: Submit through website

Senator Hugh Farley

- <http://www.nysenate.gov/senator/hugh-t-farley>
- By mail: 188 State Street Room 711, Legislative Office Building, Albany, NY 12247 **OR** 2430 Riverfront Center, Amsterdam, NY 12010
- By phone: (518) 455-2181
- By fax: (518) 455-2271
- By e-mail: farley@nysenate.gov

Senator Neil Breslin

- <http://www.nysenate.gov/senator/neil-d-breslin>
- By mail: 172 State Street Room 413, Capitol, Albany, NY 12247
- By phone: (518) 455-2225
- By e-mail: breslin@senate.state.ny.us

Assemblyman George Amedore

- <http://assembly.state.ny.us/mem/George-Amedore/>
- By mail: LOB 718, Albany, NY 12248 **OR** 1170 Riverfront Center, Amsterdam, NY 12010
- By phone: 518-455-5197
- By e-mail: Submit through website

Assemblyman John McEneny

- <http://assembly.state.ny.us/mem/John-J-McEneny/>
- By mail: LOB 648, Albany, NY 12248
- By phone: (518) 455-4178
- By e-mail: Submit through website

Assemblyman Robert Reilly

- <http://assembly.state.ny.us/mem/Bob-Reilly>
- By mail: LOB 452, Albany, NY 12248 **OR** 3 Halfmoon Executive Park Drive, Clifton Park, NY 12065
- By phone: (518) 455-5931
- By e-mail: Submit through website