

## ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR JULY 15:

### Residents to vote on district tax levy

The Hamilton School Board gave its approval May 20 for the 2019-20 budget that will be presented to voters at the Annual Meeting.

The budget totals \$61.1 million, a 6.38 percent increase over the current budget - mostly due to costs associated with the district's recent referendum. It assumes property value will increase 2.5 percent and general state aid will increase 4.07 percent. If property values or state aid are greater than these assumptions, the

tax rate will be lower.

The tax rate is projected to be \$9.10 per \$1,000 of equalized property value - 18 cents more than the current rate. For each \$100,000 of property owned, citizens will pay \$910 to support local school taxes which is \$18 more than this year's rate. The owner of a \$300,000 home can expect to pay \$2,730 in school property taxes.

Along with cost-of-living increases, the budget includes the

cost of facility projects and operational costs that voters approved in a referendum in February, 2018.

Residents can learn more about the Hamilton School District budget July 15 beginning at 6:15 p.m. at the Budget Hearing in the Hamilton Fine Arts Center, W220 N6151 Town Line Road, Sussex.

The Annual Meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. Residents vote on the tax levy at the Annual Meeting.

#### ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

July 15, 2019  
7:30 p.m. or upon Budget Hearing completion

- I. Order of Business
  - Call to Order
  - "Pledge of Allegiance"
  - Introductions
  - Agenda Approval
- II. Notice of Hearing/Meeting
- III. Call for Chairperson Nominations
- IV. Voice Vote on Nomination of Chairperson
- V. The Year in Review - Paul Mielke, Ph.D.
- VI. Printed Resolutions - Chairperson
  - A. Approval to Lease District Property for Farming Purposes
  - B. Adoption of Tax Levy
  - C. Salaries of School Board Members
  - D. Reimbursement of Board Members' Expenses
  - E. Board Authority to Establish Annual Meeting Date and Time
- VII. Adjournment of Meeting

### Hamilton named best, challenging high school

Hamilton High School made the lists of America's top high schools as determined by two national news media outlets - U.S. News & World Report and The Washington Post. In addition, it was named 2018 Advanced Placement (AP) Pacesetter School for impressive student AP access and exam scores.

For the fifth consecutive year, Hamilton High School was named to U.S. News & World Report "America's Best High Schools" list. The ranking highlights the best public high schools based on how well they prepare all their students in basic skills and readiness for college-level work. Hamilton is ranked 17th among 517 Wisconsin public high schools and 755th among more than 17,000 U.S. public high schools - placing it in the top 5 percent of high schools in the state and country. Its national rank is the highest in the school's history.

For the fifth year since 2014, Hamilton made The Washington Post's "America's Most Challenging High Schools" list. Hamilton was one of only 21 Wisconsin high schools named.

In addition, the Wisconsin Advanced Placement Advisory Council (WAPAC) recognized Hamilton High School as a 2018 Advanced Placement (AP) Pacesetter School for impressive student AP access and exam scores.

Hamilton Principal Candis Mongan said being named to the lists reflects the hard work of the teaching staff and their commitment to offering an academically rigorous learning environment, but one that is also focused on the social and emotional needs of students.



#### Almost ready for students

Workers are finishing the construction of Silver Spring Intermediate School as the summer begins. In early July, a limited number of staff members will occupy offices in preparation for the start of school. Classrooms will be open to teaching staff in August. A dedication ceremony is slated for Aug. 26.

### All referendum projects on track for start of school

It has been 16 short months since voters in the Hamilton School District approved \$57.4 million of construction projects and \$1.5 million for operational costs for a new intermediate school. In about two more months, all projects will be completed and ready for student and staff use with the start of school.

Expanded and renovated high

school fabrication, engineering, construction and manufacturing labs were opened with the start of school last fall. Relocated district and high school offices were opened in May, allowing work on the 15-classroom addition on the front of the high school to proceed. Once school was out, work began on the high school graphics lab which will be

renovated and expanded.

Construction of Silver Spring Intermediate School occurred throughout the timeline and is now more than 90 percent complete. Remaining work to finish the school includes carpeting classrooms, installing furniture, technology and ceiling grids.

All projects have been on schedule and on budget.



#### Community invited to celebrate opening of new school

Hamilton School District residents are invited to celebrate the opening of Silver Spring Intermediate School Aug. 26 at 6 p.m. on the school grounds. A formal dedication will be followed with tours of the facility, the first new school in the district since 1999.

Fifth- and sixth-graders from across the district will attend the new school. By taking grade 5 out of elementary schools and grade 6 out of the middle school, the intermediate school solved classroom space shortages from 5K to grade 8.

## Principals chosen to lead Hamilton, Silver Spring schools



**Rebecca Newcomer**

The Hamilton School Board appointed Rebecca Newcomer Hamilton High School principal at its May 7 meeting. Newcomer, who has been a high school administrator in the Waukesha School District for the past seven years, will begin her new post effective July 1. She replaces Candis Mongan, Hamilton principal since 2006 who will become principal at Oak Creek High School.

Newcomer has spent her 21-year career in the Waukesha School District, the first 13 years as an English teacher at South High School and then as an instructional coach for two years before moving into administration. She was an assistant principal for nearly two years before becoming principal at North and then South high schools.

Newcomer earned her

bachelor's degree in English literature in 1997 from Loras College in Dubuque and two master's degrees – one in education in 2005 from Carroll College and the other in school administration in 2011 from Marian University.

"Rebecca Newcomer is a talented school leader who has proven skills to support a collaborative high school environment for students, staff and families," Superintendent Paul Mielke, Ph.D., said.

"She is an energetic, knowledgeable professional known for building relationships and establishing a positive, student-centered culture," he said.



**Deanna Wellens**

Deanna Wellens was appointed principal of Silver Spring Intermediate School at the June 25 School Board meeting.

Wellens, who replaces Mark Peperkorn following his resignation June 14, will begin her new position July 1.

Wellens has been associate principal at Pilgrim Park Middle School in the Elmbrook School District since 2015. Before joining Elmbrook, she was the dean of students at Wyoming Middle School in Cincinnati, Ohio. She started her career in education as a school psychologist in Wyoming City Schools and Three Rivers Middle School in Ohio.

She earned her administrative certification from Xavier University in Ohio in 2015, her master's degree in school psychology from Miami University in Ohio in 2004 and her bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee in 2003.

"Ms. Wellens is an effective leader who takes a student-centered approach to create an environment where students can learn and grow," said Hamilton Superintendent Paul Mielke, Ph.D.

"Her listening skills, insightful problem solving and clear communication style will serve Silver Spring Intermediate School well," Mielke said.

## Trawicki chosen 2019 Principal of the Year



**Michele Trawicki and School Board President Gabe Kolesari**

Marcy Elementary School Principal Michele Trawicki was selected the 2019 Wisconsin Elementary Principal of the Year by Association of Wisconsin School Administrators (AWSA).

Trawicki, who has been Marcy principal since 2008, was presented with the award April 5 at a surprise presentation in front of her staff, Hamilton School Board members and family. AWSA Executive Director Jim Lynch said she is an effective school leader who is known for her ability to form strong teams of teacher-leaders who work to raise student achievement and engage families in the learning process.

Hamilton Superintendent Paul Mielke, Ph.D., credited Trawicki with empowering her staff to play an active role in selecting effective professional development and working to ensure parents are closely involved in the learning process.

Trawicki will attend a ceremony in Washington, D.C. that will include the other 49 state principals of the year.

## District gives annual notice of policies, procedures; entire policies available online

Certain state and federal regulations and Hamilton School District policies require that residents receive annual public notice. Below is the list of notices published to keep citizens informed and meet notification requirements. More detailed information on each of these notices is posted at [www.hamilton.k12.wi.us](http://www.hamilton.k12.wi.us) >DISTRICT>DISTRICT FORMS AND ANNUAL NOTICES. Residents may also contact the Public Information Office at (262) 246-1973 x1100 to obtain the entire district policy or further information on any of these matters.

- **Academic standards** - The Hamilton School Board approves educational standards and curriculum documents for each subject area. Information is available on the district website including parent guides detailing content for each grade level.
- **Nondiscrimination** - The Hamilton School District will not deny any person admission to any public school or deny any person participation in, deny any person the benefits of, or discriminate against any person in any curricular, extracurricular, pupil services, recreational or other program or activity because of a person's sex, race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, physical, mental, emotional or learning disability, or any other reason prohibited by state or federal laws or regulations.
- **Goal setting** - The School Board recognizes the value of goal setting for school improvement based on districtwide needs and concerns.
- **Student records** - FERPA affords parents and students over 18 years of age certain rights with respect to the student's education and health records.
- **Parent rights and the curriculum** - Parents have the right to inspect instructional materials and deny their child's participation in certain curricular activities, and reasonable accommodations may be made because of a student's sincerely held religious beliefs.
- **Student, parent privacy rights** - The district respects the privacy rights of parents and their children and complies with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment requirements with respect to privacy rights.
- **Directory data** - The School Board designates certain student record information as directory data that may be disclosed to any person unless the adult student, parent or guardian informs the school that all or any part of the directory data may not be released.
- **Use of cameras on buses** - Video cameras are used on school buses to reduce disciplinary problems and vandalism and allow bus drivers to focus on driving.
- **Entrance age** - Children who meet the entrance age requirements shall be enrolled in kindergarten and first grade in the district. Early admission to 5-year-old kindergarten or first grade may be granted only according to established procedures.
- **Asbestos, air quality** - The district complies with state and federal regulations concerning asbestos and indoor air quality management.
- **Americans with Disabilities Act** - The district has taken steps to achieve compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, a law designed to protect individuals with disabilities from discrimination in services, programs, activities and employment.
- **Alternative programs** - Alternative programming and curriculum modifications are available to students.
- **Classroom Code of Conduct** - Wisconsin law requires that teachers shall be authorized to remove students from class for reasons specified in a School Board-adopted Code of Classroom Conduct.
- **Qualified teachers, paraprofessionals** - Federal law requires that school districts share the qualifications of teachers and paraprofessionals.
- **Special Education referral and evaluation procedures** - Upon request, the Hamilton School District is required to evaluate a child for eligibility for special education services. A request for evaluation is known as a referral. When the district receives a referral, the district will appoint an Individualized Education Program (IEP) team to determine if the child has a disability, and if the child needs special education services.

Continued on page 3.

## Minutes from 2018 annual public hearing, meeting

### Budget Hearing Minutes July 16, 2018 — 6:15 p.m.

School Board President Gabe Kolesari called the hearing to order at 6:15 p.m. and Board Clerk Dawn Van Aacken read the meeting notice.

Business Services Assistant Superintendent Bryan Ruud presented a slide presentation highlighting projects and purchases for the Hamilton School District during the 2017-18 school year. Ruud reviewed the proposed 2018-19 budget including:

EXPENDITURES - \$57,466,186	INSTRUCTIONAL - \$33,430,289
Salary & Fringes - 76.95%	Undifferentiated - 37%
Purchased Services - 17.04%	Regular - 38%
Non-Capital Objects - 4.13%	Vocational - 4%
Capital Objects - 0.47%	Physical Education - 4%
Debt Retirement - 0.15%	Special Education - 15%
Insurance & Judgments - 0.84%	Co-Curricular - 2%
Other Objects - 0.41%	
OPERATIONAL BUDGET - \$57,466,186	REVENUE FUND 10 & 27 - \$ 57,466,186
Instruction - 58%	Tax Levy - 50.58%
Other Support Services - 3%	State Aids - 43.73%
Maintenance - 12%	Local Aids - 2.30%
Pupil Services - 4%	Interdistrict Aids - 1.49%
Transportation - 6%	Grants - 1.89%
Administration - 14%	
Non-Program Transactions - 3%	

Ruud showed several slides that included the following topics: overview of construction projects completed to date and referendum projects currently in process, budget increase, general state aid, equalization valuation trend, membership trends, mil rate trends, taxes receivable, cost per pupil, budget summary by comparison, object versus total budget and tax levy projections.

Motion by Waltz, seconded by Schellin, to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote on adjournment. Motion carried. The budget meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

### Annual Meeting Minutes July 16, 2018 — 7:30 p.m.

School Board President Gabe Kolesari called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

President Kolesari introduced the Board members, Superintendent Paul Mielke, Buelow & Vetter Attorney Dan Vliet and Assistant Board Clerk Susan Moll.

Motion by Dawn Van Aacken, seconded by Jennifer Waltz, resolved to approve the agenda. Voice vote on agenda. Motion carried.

Dawn Van Aacken read the official meeting notice publication.

Motion by Deborah Briggs, seconded by Van Aacken, resolved to nominate Gerald Schmitz to serve as chairperson of the Annual Meeting. (There were no other nominations). Voice vote on nomination of chairperson. Motion carried.

Superintendent Paul Mielke presented the "Year in Review."

Schmitz read the voter eligibility rules - must be 18 years of age and a resident of the Hamilton School District for at least 28 days prior to the meeting.

RESOLUTION A: Approval to Lease District Property for Farming Purposes  
Motion by Briggs, seconded by Steven Schellin, resolved that the School Board is hereby authorized during the current school year to negotiate a lease of district property for farming purposes: approximately 55 acres on Clover Lane and Hwy. VV for \$5,400 with Robert and Edward Fleisner; and approximately 38 acres on Plainview Road for \$4,940 with Hillside Farms. Show of hands vote on Resolution A. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION B: Adoption of Tax Levy  
Motion by Waltz, seconded by Sue Posh, resolved that a tax for the operation and maintenance of the schools in the amount of \$29,064,673, a tax for debt retirement in the amount of \$4,240,668, and a tax for community services fund of \$31,000 for a total of \$33,336,341 be levied upon the taxable property of the district for the school year 2018-19. Show of hands vote on Resolution B. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION C: Salaries of School Board Members  
Motion by Briggs, seconded by Schellin, resolved to approve the annual salary rate of \$4,750 for Hamilton School District Board of Education members. Show of hands vote on Resolution C. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION D: Reimbursement of Board Members' Expense  
Motion by Van Aacken, seconded by Sue Posh, resolved that payment be authorized for actual and necessary expenses and for actual loss of earnings for School Board members when such expenses are incurred in the performance of their duties. Show of hands vote on Resolution D. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION E: Board Authority to Establish Date and Time for Annual Meeting  
Motion by Schellin, seconded by Kolesari, resolved that the 2019 Annual Meeting and Annual Meetings thereafter will be at a time and on a date selected by the School Board. Show of hands vote on Resolution E. Motion carried.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Briggs, seconded by Kolesari, resolved to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Assistant Board Clerk Susan Moll

## Citizens to vote on 2019 resolutions

**Approval to Lease District Property for Farming Purposes** — Be it resolved that the school board is hereby authorized, during the current school year to negotiate a lease of district property for farming purposes.

- Approximately 55 acres on Clover Lane and Hwy. VV for \$5,400 with CJ Enterprises;
- Approximately 38 acres on Plainview Road for \$4,940 with Hillside Farms.

**Adoption of Tax Levy** — Be it resolved that a tax for the operation and maintenance of the schools in the amount of \$29,399,446, a tax for debt retirement in the amount of \$3,460,931 and tax for community services fund of \$31,000 for a total of \*\$32,891,377 be levied upon the taxable property of the district for the school year 2019-20.  
\*Board recommended budget.

**Salaries of School Board Members** — Be it resolved that the following yearly salary of \$\_\_\_\_\_ be adopted for members of the Hamilton School District Board of Education. [Current salary is \$4,750 per year.]

**Reimbursement of Board Members' Expenses** — Be it resolved that payment be authorized for actual and necessary expenses and for actual loss of earnings for school board members when such expenses are incurred in the performance of their duties. [Wisconsin State Statutes 120.10(4)].

**Board Authority to Establish Date and Time for Annual Meeting** — Be it resolved that the 2020 Annual Meeting and Annual Meetings thereafter will be at a time and on a date selected by the School Board.

## District annual notices continued from page 2

The district locates, identifies and evaluates all children with disabilities who are enrolled by their parents in private (including religious) schools, elementary schools and secondary schools located in the school district. A physician, nurse, psychologist, social worker or administrator of a social agency who reasonably believes a child brought to him or her for services is a child with a disability has a legal duty to refer the child, including a homeless child, to the school district in which the child resides. Before referring the child, the person making the referral must inform the child's parent that the referral will be made. Others, including parents, who reasonably believe a child is

a child with a disability may also refer the child, including a homeless child, to the school district in which the child resides. Referrals must be in writing and include the reason why the person believes the child is a child with a disability. A referral may be made by contacting John Peterson, Supervisor of Special Services, Hamilton School District, at (262) 246-1973 x1184, or by writing him at W220 N6151 Town Line Road, Sussex, WI 53089.

- **Education of homeless** – Children and youth who are homeless have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other children residing in the district.

Education Issues features stories about Hamilton School District programs, people, curriculum, schools and activities. It is published in the interest of providing accurate information to Hamilton School District residents and businesses. Comments or questions from readers are welcome. Send them to:

**EDUCATION ISSUES**  
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# EDUCATION ISSUES



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## Balance sheets summarize district expenses, revenues

State statutes require school budgets to be formulated and published prior to the Annual Meeting. The budget summary below is formulated according to state requirements. Additional information about the budget can be found in this edition of Education Issues.

GENERAL & SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDS (10 & 27)				DEBT SERVICE FUND (39)				COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND (80)			
	AUDITED	UNAUDITED	BUDGET		AUDITED	UNAUDITED	BUDGET		AUDITED	UNAUDITED	BUDGET
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20		2017-18	2018-19	2019-20		2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Beginning Fund Balance				Beginning Fund Balance	66,471.36	67,191.87	1,128,420.92	Beginning Fund Balance	112,630.40	105,623.78	102,617.63
	20,205,252.25	22,486,735.42	23,023,876.48	Ending Fund Balance	67,191.87	1,128,420.92	1,132,245.92	Ending Fund Balance	105,623.78	102,617.63	99,262.63
Ending Fund Balance											
	22,486,735.42	23,023,876.48	22,423,876.48	REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES				REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			
REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES					1,105,000.50	6,188,036.72	3,490,931.00		63,952.47	54,156.35	61,000.00
Transfers-In (Source 100)	0.00	0.00	0.00	EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES				EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES			
Local Sources (Source 200)					1,104,279.99	5,126,807.67	3,487,106.00		70,959.09	57,162.50	64,355.00
	29,517,786.05	28,855,064.81	30,735,030.00								
Inter-district Payments (Source 300 + 400)				<b>LONG-TERM CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT TRUST FUND (46)</b>				<b>Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses</b>			
	729,325.27	647,400.53	745,044.00		AUDITED	UNAUDITED	BUDGET	ALL FUNDS	AUDITED	UNAUDITED	BUDGET
Intermediate Sources (Source 500)					2017-18	2018-19	2019-20		2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
	37,461.03	34,890.52	35,121.00	Beginning Fund Balance		0.00	100,000.00	GROSS TOTAL EXPENDITURES -- ALL FUNDS	60,426,170.60	109,043,523.08	76,980,194.53
State Sources (Source 600)				Ending Fund Balance		100,000.00	100,000.00	Interfund Transfers (Source 100) - ALL FUNDS	0.00	0.00	0.00
	24,168,191.82	27,264,516.57	27,824,518.00	REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES		100,000.00	0.00	Refinancing Expenditures (FUND 30)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Federal Sources (Source 700)				EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES				NET TOTAL EXPENDITURES -- ALL FUNDS	60,426,170.60	109,043,523.08	76,980,194.53
	1,164,328.14	1,284,292.01	1,101,451.00			0.00	0.00	PERCENTAGE INCREASE -- NET TOTAL FUND EXPENDITURES			
All Other Sources (Source 800 + 900)								FROM PRIOR YEAR		80.46%	-29.40%
	392,455.67	1,386,618.74	53,000.00	<b>CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND (49)</b>				<b>PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY</b>			
TOTAL REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES					AUDITED	UNAUDITED	BUDGET		AUDITED	UNAUDITED	BUDGET
	56,009,547.98	59,472,783.18	60,494,164.00		2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	General Fund	28,121,112.00	27,184,849.00	29,399,446.00
EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES				Beginning Fund Balance		53,544,705.18	10,681,825.53	Referendum Debt Service Fund	668,450.00	4,240,668.00	3,460,931.00
Instruction (Function 100 000)				Ending Fund Balance		53,544,705.18	10,681,825.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	31,788,587.78	34,631,000.07	34,461,614.00	REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES				Non-Referendum Debt Service Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
Support Services (Function 200 000)					57,468,928.64	729,830.01	156,545.00	Capital Expansion Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
	20,102,170.16	22,401,710.28	24,495,421.00	EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES				Community Service Fund	31,000.00	31,000.00	31,000.00
Non-Program Transactions (Function 400 000)					3,924,223.46	43,592,709.66	10,838,370.53	TOTAL SCHOOL LEVY	28,820,562.00	31,456,517.00	32,891,377.00
	1,837,306.87	1,898,455.76	2,137,129.00	<b>FOOD SERVICE FUND (50)</b>				PERCENTAGE INCREASE -- TOTAL LEVY FROM PRIOR YEAR			
TOTAL EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES					AUDITED	UNAUDITED	BUDGET				
	53,728,064.81	58,931,166.11	61,094,164.00		2017-18	2018-19	2019-20				
				Beginning Fund Balance	322,595.71	213,861.97	249,040.93				
				Ending Fund Balance	213,861.97	249,040.93	281,803.93				
REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES				REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES							
	364,050.68	333,821.79	316,962.00		1,175,344.15	1,025,742.81	1,212,000.00				
EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES				EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES							
	314,565.36	345,113.29	316,962.00		1,284,077.89	990,563.85	1,179,237.00				

2017-18 financial statements of the district were audited by Reilly, Penner & Benton LLP. The audit report is available for inspection in the Business Office.