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**New Rochelle School District Administration
Proposes \$281 Million 2019-2020 Budget**

Spending Plan Would Add Positions Across District, Remain Within Tax Cap

NEW ROCHELLE, N.Y. (April 10, 2019) – The City School District of New Rochelle administration introduced a \$281,067,000 superintendent’s recommended 2019-2020 budget Tuesday that adds more than two dozen positions across the District, addresses priorities expressed by administrators and community members and stays within the state-mandated tax cap.

The plan would add positions across the District, including special education teachers, English as a New Language instructors and academic intervention specialists, while also replacing the press box and renovating the concession stand at New Rochelle High School’s McKenna Field.

Under the plan, spending would increase \$10.7 million, or 4 percent, over this year’s \$270,381,160 budget. The plan is supported partly by a \$4 million increase in state aid.

The preliminary budget was presented in the library of New Rochelle High School by Interim Assistant Superintendent for Business Thomas Ryan. The plan took into account input from administrators and community members who attended a Budget Café session March 21 to discuss their priorities, as well as a January 22 Town Hall session and other Board of Education meetings.

“This budget includes your input and that of our leaders,” said Interim Superintendent Dr. Magda Parvey. “This is a spending plan that respects the community’s values and remains mindful of

the taxpayers while allowing us to continue providing high quality education for all of the almost 11,000 students in the District.”

The tax levy – the dollar amount to be raised by property tax – would be \$213,591,114 under the spending plan. That is an increase of \$4,588,952, or 2.2 percent from the current tax levy of \$209,002,162, staying within the increase permitted by the tax cap.

The plan is helped by an increase in state aid. The District will receive \$51,470,106 in aid for the next year, up from \$47,416,327 for the current year’s budget.

The property tax rate to fund the budget would be \$802.80 per \$1,000 of assessed value. That is an increase of \$17.08 or 2.17 percent over the current rate of \$785.72 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

The plan would add instructional and related positions that meet state mandates and address priorities expressed by administrators and community members.

Those include:

- 4 special education teachers (2 for NRHS, 2 for the middle schools).
- 3.4 English as a New Language teachers (1 each for Jefferson and Trinity elementary schools, 0.6 for NRHS, 0.4 each for Ward Elementary School and Isaac E. Young Middle School).
- 2 academic intervention specialists for NRHS freshmen
- 1.6 Spanish teachers (0.6 for Albert Leonard Middle School, 0.5 each for Columbus and Trinity elementary schools).
- 1 fifth-grade teacher for Columbus.
- 1 districtwide speech teacher.
- 1 social worker for IEYMS.
- 1 home and careers teacher for IEYMS.
- 1 counselor for ALMS.
- 1 nurse for ALMS.
- 1 literacy coach for Davis Elementary School.
- 1 districtwide elementary school literacy coordinator.

The total cost of those positions would be \$2.2 million.

Other positions the plan would add include an Assistant Director of Technology for Instruction and two junior technicians; four general school aides who would assist with bus monitoring; a night custodial supervisor and a painter.

Among the requests from the community the budget would be the funds allotted for a new press box (\$250,000) and renovated concession stand (\$200,000) at New Rochelle High School’s McKenna Field.

The plan also provides for continuing the contract with Altaris Consulting Group, which was hired recently to advise the District on safety and security.

In transportation, the administration proposes increasing the discount for MetroCards sold to students by the District to cover the fare hikes coming this month that will add another \$1.05 for an eight-ride card.

The District would save \$325,000 in salary and benefits on two central office positions – a project manager post that has been abolished, and the Director of Transportation position, which is and would remain unfilled. The transportation staff would continue to report directly to the Assistant Superintendent for Business and Administration.

Public discussion was invited at the meeting, and will be welcomed again at a second budget session at 7:30 p.m. tomorrow, April 11, also in the library of NRHS, 265 Clove Road. The Board of Education is scheduled to adopt a final budget on April 23. Residents will vote on the plan May 21.

About the City School District of New Rochelle

With nearly 11,000 students in 10 schools, the City School District of New Rochelle, through an active partnership amongst community, parents, staff and students, provides a high-quality and challenging education for every child, in a safe, nurturing environment that embraces rich diversity and drives success.

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