Annual Budget Hearing  
Board of Education  
May 6, 2008  

The Annual Budget Hearing of the Board of Education, Westbury Union Free School District, Towns of North Hempstead and Hempstead, Westbury, New York was held in the Library of the High School, One Post Road, Old Westbury, New York on May 6, 2008.

Present, Dr. Pless M. Dickerson, President  
Board of Mrs. Adelaide T. Brinson, Vice President  
Education: Mr. Floyd T. Ewing, III, Mr. Larry D. Wornum and Mr. Lawrence F. Zaino  

Others Dr. Constance R. Clark, Superintendent of Schools  
Present: Dr. Robert W. Root, Asst. Supt., Curriculum, Instruction & Personnel  
Mrs. Mary A. Lagnado, Asst. Supt., Business & Management Services  
Mrs. Gloria Lancer, District Clerk  

Absent: Ms. Karin B. Campbell  
Mrs. Connie LoCascio 

CALL TO ORDER:  

At 7:40 p.m., Dr. Pless M. Dickerson, President, called the meeting to order.

PRESENTATION – 2008-2009 PROPOSED BUDGET:  

Copies of Westbury Schools 2008-2009 proposed budget – Sustaining Success while Maximizing Resources were made available to those present.

Mrs. Lagnado presented the 2008-2009 proposed budget. The proposed budget includes the continuation of all current programs. It also includes a full day Pre-K program and Cradle of Aviation Museum Academy for secondary students. The school district is earmarked to get $2,596,746 in additional Foundation aid and Contract for Excellence. The Contract for Excellence money is to be used for academic programs in a prescribed manner. Projected expenditures for 2008-2009 – budget without Contract for Excellence - $96,127,775 and with foundation aid Contract for Excellence - $2,596,746 which totals a combined budget of $98,724,521. The school district received an additional $2,615,662 in state aid. That is the only money we can give back to the taxpayers. With that additional state aid the tax increase is 2.3%. The average market value for homes in Westbury is $466,800. The average home’s yearly cost of school taxes would increase by $263.97. In 2007-2008 the school district received a total of $9,106,165 from entitlement and competitive grants which provides important programs for children. Mrs. Lagnado reviewed how Westbury’s tax dollars are spent and state aid compared to the Nassau County average. Mrs. Lagnado also presented a breakdown of where Westbury’s budgeted revenues come from.
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PRESENTATION: (Continued)

Mrs. Lagnado presented a breakdown of the proposed budget vs. contingent budget for the 2008-2009 school year.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Questions and comments were invited from the audience. The following individuals asked to be heard:

Mr. Rocco Lanzilotta  
Mr. Ray Muntz  
Ms. Susan Santilli  
Mr. Stan Ercolano

Dr. Dickerson noted that this budget is a fiscally conservative budget.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:31 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Ewing, seconded by Mr. Wornum, and carried unanimously, that the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Gloria M. Lancer, District Clerk