

We believe that the proposed 2023-2024 budget addresses the Parent Teacher Council's (PTC) budget priorities identified in November 2023, in addition to being fiscally responsible. In our statement from November, the PTC Budget Study Chairs identified four main categories of PTA community requests for the District Administration to include in this proposed budget. These four categories were:

- 1) Delivery of Educational Services and Student Supports,
- 2) Safety and Security as related to Transportation, Traffic and Grounds,
- 3) Upgraded Facilities, to either enhance or replace existing aging items, and
- 4) Sustainability

The proposed budget addresses all four of the categories of community requests. We believe this budget will not only maintain Scarsdale's educational system as a leader in the area, but also, will continue to push Scarsdale Schools to even higher levels. We are also pleased that the full transportation study is included in the proposed 2023-24 budget.

As presented by the high school administration in Board meetings earlier this academic year, significant renovation is needed for the auditorium, and it is long overdue. The infrastructure is aging and needs to be replaced, and our students and broader community deserve a higher quality auditorium for our academic and community needs. All roads in this school community lead to the high school, and all Scarsdale students will reap the benefits of this renovation. This auditorium is not only used for performances, but also as a classroom and learning space. In addition, it is a venue that is used by community groups as well as for the District, PTA, and the PTC, like this evening. The caliber of the space should match the extensive degree to which it is used and the quality of the work filling it. This renovation will allow that to happen. It is prudent that the renovation will be financed via a bond issue.

Let's take this time to show you a brief video created by the District to learn more about this renovation.

Based on the District's responses to our questions, we are pleased to offer our support for the proposed budget, as well as for the separate bond issue for the auditorium renovation. The PT Council Executive Committee and Budget Study Chairs encourage the community to vote "YES" on both the Budget and the Auditorium Bond on May 16 from 7:00am -9:00pm at the Scarsdale Middle School.

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