



**Manchester-Shortsville Central School District
Operational Budget Vote
May 20, 2014
8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
High School Auditorium Foyer**

PARTNERSHIP
RESPECT
INTEGRITY
DIGNITY
EXCELLENCE

Operational Budget: On **May 20th** our community will have the opportunity to vote on the school's operational budget. Despite a **lingering \$704,000 reduction in State Aid from 2008-2009 to 2014**, a **1.9% increase in the school's levy over the past three years**, and **ever-rising costs of utilities, fuel, materials, pensions, health insurance, worker's compensation, contractual salaries, programs and services**, Red Jacket remains a very competitive school

district. According to 2013 data reported by Business First, **Red Jacket Schools ranked in the top third for K-12 academic performance** out of 429 public school districts in 48 Upstate New York counties based on four years of assessment data.

Although we get results, there has been a cost to our children at Red Jacket from these State Aid reductions! We have had to make serious program and staffing cuts. **The 2014-2015 Budget includes a 1.9% tax levy increase that will allow the District to maintain current programming and reinstate secondary English and Social Studies to full-time teaching positions** (to provide more support and elective course offerings for high school students).

What a 1.9% increase means to a home owner whose home is valued at \$100,000 with a basic STAR exemption is an annual increase of approximately \$41.00 per year based on the 2013-2014 District property assessments. This amount is less than one tank of gasoline or less than 12 cents a day.

Board of Education: One seat on the Manchester-Shortsville Central School District Board of Education will become vacant on June 30, 2014. Qualified voters of the District will elect one (1) Board member at the annual school election on May 20, 2014, to fill the seat. **If you are interested in becoming a member of the Red Jacket Team, consider running for the Board of Education and contact Kim Brown at 585-289-3964 for more information. Our mission is: We challenge all learners and work in partnership with students, parents and community to achieve high standards.**

Capital Project Update: On April 9, 2013 our community showed overwhelming support for a \$3.1 million Capital Project to address Red Jacket School's facility and safety needs. **The Capital Project is allowing us to take advantage of State Aid incentives in which approximately 88.8% of the project will be paid through the State Aid and the remaining portion has been set aside in our Capital Project Reserve.**

This Reserve can only be used for capital projects.

The facility repairs and safety upgrades that will occur this summer have resulted in no additional cost to tax payers. Capital Projects are the most cost effective way for school districts to address costly facility repairs and needed upgrades.

School Logos: During the **May 20th budget vote**, **community members, students, and staff will have the opportunity to vote** on one RJ logo and one pictorial logo from logos we have used in the past, logos used presently and new student created logos. The two logos (one RJ and one pictorial) or one combined RJ and pictorial logo with the most votes will be submitted to the Board of Education to consider adopting as our "Official" Red Jacket School Logo(s) that we will consistently use.

Awards Ceremony: During our **May 20th budget vote**, please join us at our Middle School Academic Awards Ceremony, which begins at 6:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium to honor **excellence in student performance.**

Budget Vote: Last year our budget passed overwhelmingly with **352 YES votes and 77 NO votes!** Thank you to all our students and community members for your support and believing in the integrity of our mission.

If one parent or guardian from each household votes on May 20th, we would have almost 900 voters!

Please, vote and encourage voting on May 20th!

**Red Jacket Schools
Together, We Get Results!**

For more information please visit our website at
www.redjacket.org