

May 4, 2016 Board of Education Meeting / Budget Hearing:

Please remind your friends, neighbors and community family members to come out and vote on the school budget on May 17th from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. For more school budget information, please visit our website at www.redjacket.org.

The Budget Hearing is an opportunity for our community can ask questions of clarification concerning the budget or anything that is on the budget vote ballot. At this point, the budget is fixed and adopted. Changing the dollar amount of the budget is not an option. The Board of Education will assist in answering the community's questions.

Budget Information: The State approved a 2016-2017 budget that includes \$253,000 in GEA State Aid, which is the remaining amount owed to us from the \$1.1 MILLION in State Aid that was taken away from Red Jacket going into the 2009-2010 school year. Although an estimated shortfall of \$1.6 MILLION in Foundation Aid to Red Jacket remains, the GEA Aid restoration is allowing us to ask our community to support a 0.0% tax levy increase for the 2016-2017 school year.

In April, the Board of Education adopted a 2016-2017 Budget of \$17,114,000, with a tax levy increase of 0%, and a budget increase of 3%. This will allow the Manchester-Shortsville Central School District to balance the budget and maintain the restorations to the positions and programs that were brought back over the past three years, as the GEA State Aid was being restored (Technology Teacher, English Teacher, Social Studies Teacher, two support staff persons, modified sports, Special Education Teacher, Coordinator of Special Services, and Business Manager). Full GEA restoration will allow us to provide Pre-Kindergarten opportunities, create a Teacher on Special Assignment position, and add a part-time, retired School Resource Officer shared with BOCES.

This budget places a priority on increasing educational opportunities for our students at the Pre-Kindergarten and secondary levels, increasing safety and security measures across the District, and holding the ground on remaining fiscally responsible.

- We believe it is important to provide early learning opportunities to our students to prepare them for school. By adding an afternoon Pre-Kindergarten Program, we will be able to serve children who are not able to participate in the morning UPK grant-funded program that requires us to use a lottery system to fill and maintain 18 slots. An additional afternoon program will allow us to serve the needs of more children in our community.
- Currently our secondary business teacher is also our athletic director. To meet the demands of the athletic director position, she requires additional time. Providing her with additional athletic director time would require taking away business classes from our academic program. Providing fewer elective options for our students is not acceptable. Placing our athletic director on special assignment will allow us to hire a full-time business teacher to increase the number of higher level elective courses we will be able to offer our students.
- Increasing safety and security is a shared concern for all schools, parents, and community members. Through our partnership with BOCES, we will be able to hire a part-time, retired school resource officer (SRO) to provide support across the District.

Bus Proposition

On May 17th, we will be asking our voters to release funds from our transportation reserve to purchase two (2) new full-size diesel buses. The fleet upgrade would be an investment of \$260,000. The funds are available in our bus reserve.

Contingent Budget

If our budget fails, and the Board of Education decides to go to a contingent budget, the State requires the District to reduce the budget by \$51,566, remove non-state aided equipment, and charge a fee to the community for use of District facilities. We would also be required to reduce our Business Manager position in the upcoming school year. The Contingent Budget is \$17,062,434, which is \$51,566 less than the proposed budget.

Board of Education Vacancies

Two seats on the District Board of Education will become vacant on June 30, 2016. Qualified voters of the District will elect two Board members at the vote on May 17th.



Mrs. Jennifer Speers has been a resident of the Manchester-Shortsville Central School District since 1999. She has been married to her husband Dennis for almost 13 years. They have two beautiful boys who attend Red Jacket Elementary. Connor is nine years old, and Jacob is five. Connor is finishing third grade and is active in football, basketball, and baseball. Jacob is finishing a fun year in kindergarten here at RJ!

Mrs. Speers is a licensed insurance agent. She has licenses for Property, Casualty, Life, and Health Insurance. She works for an agency in Fairport as a Business Development Manager, responsible for sales marketing. She has been with the agency for a little over seven years.

Mrs. Speers is running for the school board again to continue to be active in her community and advocate for the children, parents, and taxpayers of the school district.



Mr. Rich Vienna has been a resident of the Manchester-Shortsville Central School District for the last forty-two years. He is a 1991 Red Jacket grad. He graduated from FLCC in 1993 and attended Lincoln Memorial University in Tennessee.

Mr. Vienna has been married for fourteen years to wife Jennifer and they have two beautiful children, Brooklyn (4th grade) and Mason (6th grade). Mr. Vienna works for the Town of Manchester Highway and Water Department. He is active in youth sports in the community.

Mr. Vienna is completing his fourth year on the Board of Education and first year as Board of Education Vice President. He looks forward to continuing to serve the community through his position on the Board of Education.