The mission of the Wappingers Central School District is to empower all of our students with the competencies and confidence to challenge themselves, to pursue their passions and to realize their potential while growing as responsible members of their community.

We believe that active and continuous learning is essential for individuals and communities to flourish.

We believe embracing diversity in all its forms enriches the human experience.

We believe everyone can realize their potential and when they do, both they and the community thrive.

We believe the health and quality of a community are dependent on the responsible contributions of all its members.

We believe the collaboration needed for meaningful change is built on honesty, trust and respect.
Gaining a Better Understanding of School Tax Rates

**TERMINOLOGY**

- **Assessments** are the valuation of real property including exempt properties and whether such property is subject to valuation by each Town’s assessor.
- **Equalization Rates** are the percentage of full values set by NYS at which the taxable real property for a municipality is assessed.
- The **Tax Levy** is the amount received in property taxes.
The “tax cap” applies to the tax levy – not to tax rates by town or a taxpayer’s bill.

The legislation caps the tax levy limit at 1.26% for 2017-2018.

- Exclusions for 2017-2018 – Capital Levy

WCSD met the requirements for STAR refunds through government efficiency plans.

WCSD participated in the County Executive’s Shared Services Panel.

School Budget & Tax documents available on website.
### 2017-2018 Taxpayer Approved Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROPOSED BUDGET</th>
<th>LEVY TO LEVY</th>
<th>BUDGET TO BUDGET</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$225,181,606</td>
<td>0.95%</td>
<td>1.80%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Levy to Levy increase is .95% & within the tax cap!

Budget to Budget increase is 1.80% - a fiscally responsible plan.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Budget Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015-2016</td>
<td>$214,032,128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-2017</td>
<td>$221,199,261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-2018</td>
<td>$225,181,606</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2017-2018 Budget Breakdown $225,181,606

- 70.80% 2016-2017 Tax Levy
- 25.27% 2017-2018 State Aid
- 1.67% Fund Balance
- 1.59% Other Revenue
- .67% 2017-2018 Tax Levy increase

70.80% 16-17 tax levy
.67% 17-18 tax increase

= $160,936,353 17-18 tax levy
Assessments

- Each town assessor determines the valuation of real property including exempt properties and whether such property is subject to valuation.

- Clergy and firefighter exemptions remain in existence in 2017-2018.

- Tax grievance day is in May for each town.

- Final assessments received from each town in mid-August and broken down by Homestead & Non-Homestead.
**Equalization Rates**

- Percentage of full values at which the taxable real property for a municipality is assessed

- Used to create uniform assessments and rates among municipalities (i.e.: market value = selling price)

- Finalized by the Office of Real Property Tax Services in mid-August

- All towns have rate of 100% (fully equalized) with the exception of Philipstown at 46.85%

How are school taxes calculated?
How are school taxes calculated?

**Tax Levy**

- Total amount of money to be raised by the school district after all other sources of revenue are identified
- The portion of the budget funded by property taxes
- The tax cap legislation has changed the budget process with the tax levy at the forefront of the conversations and planning
### 2016-2017 & 2017-2018 Tax Levy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Levy Amount</th>
<th>2016-2017 APPROVED TAX LEVY</th>
<th>2017-2018 APPROVED TAX LEVY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015-2016</td>
<td>$156,396,228</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-2017</td>
<td>$159,426,539</td>
<td>$160,936,353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-2018</td>
<td>$160,936,353</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Levy increase is .95% & within the tax cap!
Comparison of the taxable assessed values and tax rates over recent years reflect a minimal change for homestead taxpayers (Dutchess County & inclusive of clergy and firefighter exemption) and show **stability**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East Fishkill</td>
<td>$2,652,381,933</td>
<td>$2,674,480,336</td>
<td>$2,694,537,125</td>
<td>1.59%</td>
<td>.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishkill</td>
<td>$1,126,700,334</td>
<td>$1,133,593,680</td>
<td>$1,154,212,083</td>
<td>2.44%</td>
<td>1.82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LaGrange</td>
<td>$97,631,312</td>
<td>$97,937,912</td>
<td>$98,340,915</td>
<td>.73%</td>
<td>.41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poughkeepsie</td>
<td>$807,042,588</td>
<td>$815,138,066</td>
<td>$818,104,600</td>
<td>1.37%</td>
<td>.36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wappingers</td>
<td>$1,704,535,942</td>
<td>$1,729,441,347</td>
<td>$1,789,185,207</td>
<td>4.97%</td>
<td>3.45%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Avg Homestead tax rate per $1,000**
Avg Non-Homestead tax rate per $1,000

$16.64  .24% decrease
$22.75  .48% decrease

****** 2016-2017 to 2017-2018 ******
WCSD is Navigating Our Way …

**WCSD’s path**

*Steps taken….*

- Fiscally responsible balanced budgets consistently prepared and approved by the local community
- Solid property values by the Towns
- Consistent NYS Equalization Rates
- Minimal increases in tax levys

**Result in…..**

*Stability in tax rates from year to year &
the sustainability and enhancement of student programs and District infrastructure*
Past School Tax Rate presentations can be viewed at:

2016-2017 Tax Rates

2015-2016 Tax Rates

2014-2015 Tax Rates