

# Spotlight on the Rockaway Borough Public Schools

From the Office of Patrick Tierney, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools/Principal

April 2011

## Superintendent's Message

### The 2011-2012 Rockaway Borough School Budget "Righting the Ship"

On Wednesday, April 27th, the registered voters in Rockaway Borough will be asked to approve the 2011-12 school budget of \$7,509,797. The local tax levy for the residents would be \$6,989,235. This would result in a \$69.19 tax increase on the average home assessed at \$300,000. In an effort to "Right the Ship" and help address areas where the district suffered from unprecedented cuts in state aid last year, we are proposing the following to meet our obligation of providing a thorough and efficient education to the children of Rockaway Borough School District. They are:

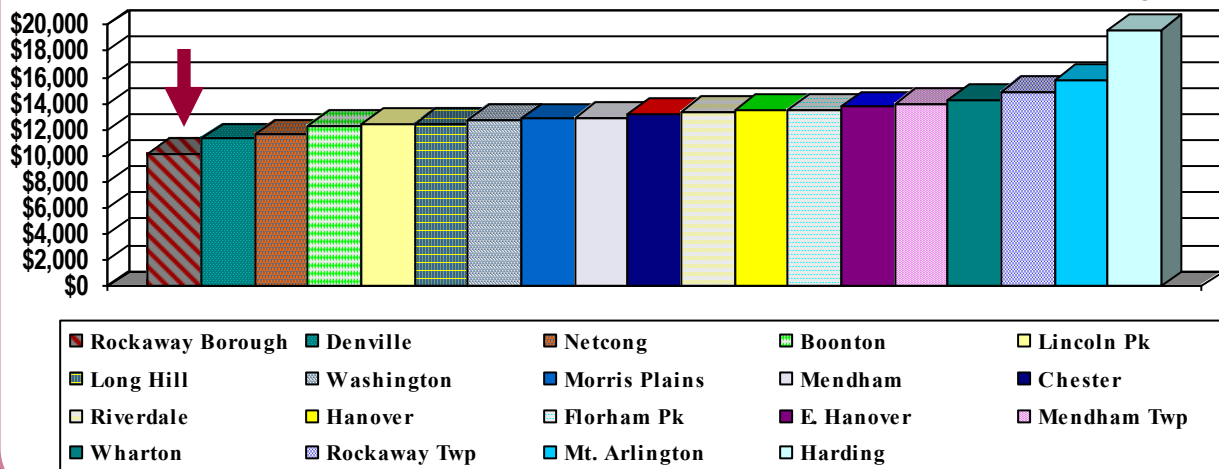
According to the NJDOE website, Rockaway Borough has the lowest K-8 per pupil cost in Morris, Sussex, & Warren Counties.

1. Restoring the District's Guidance Counselor position. With the passing of the anti-bullying law that takes effect in September 2011, the district must provide an "anti-bullying specialist". As it stands right now, Rockaway Borough is the only district in Morris County that **DOES NOT** have a guidance counselor.
2. The addition of a Reading Specialist at Lincoln School. This position will assist our children in the development of reading and comprehension skills.
3. The addition of a 4/5ths Basic Skills Teacher at Lincoln School. This will allow the district to address students that were identified by the NJPASS and NJASK as partially proficient.
4. The addition of a 4/5ths Special Education teacher at Thomas Jefferson. This position will allow the district to meet student's Individual Education Plans as per state and federal mandates.
5. Purchasing Mathematics textbooks. New Jersey has adopted the Core Standards in Language Arts and Mathematics. The district is required to purchase new math textbooks to ensure alignment to these new standards.
6. Restoring the Sports Program at Thomas Jefferson. This endeavor will allow numerous students to participate in the extra-curricular sports program in Morris County.

These proposed positive and necessary additions to the 2011–2012 budget will increase taxes by 3.28%.

*Thank you and please come out to vote on Wednesday, April 27, 2011.*

2009-2010 Comparative Cost Per Pupil for K-8 Districts in Morris County



# The 2011-12 School Budget

## The Proposal:

Resolved, that there should be raised for general funds \$6,989,235 for the ensuing school year (2011-2012)

<b>APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>PROPOSED 2011– 2012</b>
<b>General Fund</b>	
Regular Programs - Instruction	2,170,388
Special Education - Instruction	585,183
Basic Skills	151,593
ESL/Bilingual Education	59,703
Co-Curricular Activities and Athletics	40,335
Special Education - Tuition	252,173
Health Services	100,618
Related and Extraordinary Services—Special Education	620,252
Guidance	50,950
Child Study Team	196,266
Improvement of Instructional Services	102,954
Educational Media Services - School Library	148,226
General Administration	305,026
School Administration	261,270
Central Services and Administration Technology	176,552
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	728,533
Student Transportation	197,770
Employee Benefits	1,360,361
Capital Expenditure	1,644
<b>Total General Fund</b>	<b>\$7,509,797</b>

<b>REVENUES</b>	
<b>General Fund</b>	
Educational Jobs Fund	20,705
Tuition	31,572
Local Tax Levy	6,989,235
Miscellaneous Revenues	5,097
State Aid	354,657
Surplus	108,531
<b>Total General Fund</b>	<b>\$7,509,797</b>

If approved, the proposal will increase taxes by \$69.19 for the 2011 – 2012 school year.

**VOTE - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27 - TJ SCHOOL - 2:00 PM UNTIL 9:00 PM**