



## NEWS RELEASE

### Wayne Township Board of Education 50 Nellis, Drive, Wayne, N.J. 07470

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For Immediate Release

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### Board of Education Approves 2019-2020 Budget

On May 3rd, the Wayne Board of Education unanimously approved a \$173 million budget for the 2019-2020 school year. The spending plan represents a tax levy increase of 2% over the prior year, which translates to an annual increase of \$157 on the average home assessed at \$229,950. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Mark Toback commented, "I believe this is an exceptional budget for many reasons. Foremost in my mind is the fact that this budget is the first step we need to take to bring full-day kindergarten to Wayne starting in September of 2021. We are taking this first step without seeking additional funding beyond the 2% tax levy cap." School Business Administrator William Moffitt pointed to a number of important projects and initiatives supported by the approved budget. Mr. Moffitt noted, "One thing that was a real game changer for the district was a significant increase in state aid after many years of flat funding. The increase in state aid this year amounted to \$568,000, which represents an 11% increase over the prior year. Without this increase in state aid, it is very unlikely we would have been able to move ahead with full-day kindergarten, especially when considering the fact that many of our increases for salaries and benefits far exceed the 2% allowable growth in tax levy."

In addition to this first step toward full-day kindergarten, the budget includes a number of important initiatives. The district recently completed renovations on five high school science labs and will continue with two additional lab renovations during the upcoming year. The budget also includes funding to support the new block-scheduling model at each of the high schools to be implemented in the fall of 2019. The district will also be purchasing an elementary word study program and funding an elementary robotics program. For additional information on the budget, [please click here](#).

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