

**Massena Central School Board of Education Update**  
**March 29, 2019**

**State Budget News**

Here is an update on the state budget from NYSCOSS Deputy Director Bob Lowry. We will be analyzing the state aid runs for impact on Massena. The report indicates our Foundation Aid increased by \$831,048 which is an increase of \$437,350 over the Governor's proposal released in January. That is good news for the District.

Last night, just after midnight, Governor Cuomo and legislative leaders announced that they had come to an agreement on a final budget.

Details were scarce in the announcement, but we did learn that the final arrangement includes:

- \$961 million increase in School Aid
  - \$618 million increase in Foundation Aid, the same dollar amount as last year and \$280 million more than the Governor had proposed.
- Making the tax cap permanent law
- Enacting some version of the Executive's proposal on district level Foundation Aid distribution

We will send a summary of budget actions affecting schools, probably tomorrow, but for now here are a few highlights.

- The budget will make the property tax cap permanent. Although Newsday reported that there would be some adjustment for BOCES capital, neither we nor any other group have found that language in any of the budget bills.
- The budget does address a few Council priorities:
  - Authorize for districts to establish a reserve for Teachers Retirement System obligations.
  - Adjust the salary cap for BOCES District Superintendents for the first time since 2003.
  - Clarify authority of SUNY institutions to allow high school students to take college dual enrollment classes tuition free.
  - Allow transportation "piggybacking" by school districts

As we wrote last week, Governor Cuomo continued aggressively advocating for his "equity plan" proposal to require districts to increase funding in schools deemed "high need" and "underfunded." The agreed-to budget will make the requirements more flexible and reduce the number of schools and districts which will be affected. Instead of being required to spend up to 10% of their Foundation Aid increase per targeted school, districts will be required to report to the Education Commissioner how they had prioritized those schools.

- Again, we will report further on details, probably tomorrow.

The Governor's press release on the deal can be viewed below.

- [2019 Budget Agreement](#)

2019 School Aid Runs

Final school aid runs were made available this afternoon and can be viewed below.

- [2019-20 Final School Aid Runs](#)

### **Rotary Pancake Breakfast**



Rotarian Jerry Manor & his grandson Carter Robideau  
Working the Syrup!



JV Girls Softball Team



Varsity Girls Softball team

The 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Rotary Pancake Breakfast was held on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at JW Leary Junior High School. It was a great community event that many of us look forward to every year. I want to thank Mike Chartrand and all of the spring coaches who helped organize students to wait on tables and clean up after the event. Thank you to Boys & Girls Club Executive Director Jason Novak for bringing his Club students as well. It was a great opportunity for our students to serve their community and we could not have done it without them. A special treat was provided by MCS Drama Club Director Chris Lincoln who brought many of the cast of *The Sound of Music* to sing for the crowd. Thanks also to all of the Rotarians, businesses, and organizations who sponsored the breakfast. Some of the proceeds from the event go to support four Rotary scholarships for graduating seniors. I can see why this special community event has lasted almost 60 years. It is incredible.



**The Sound of Music**

I want to congratulate Director Chris Lincoln and all of the cast and crew of ‘The Sound of Music’ for their wonderful production this weekend. It was a spectacular show with exceptional casting, singing, acting, choreography and set design. I also want to thank all of the individuals and businesses from the community who supported the show. It was a remarkable team effort.

**Cast**—Mekayla Fountaine, Carly Lalone, Meghan Lambert, Lauren Laughman, Carly Garcia, Jack Witkop, Noah Love, Grace Favreau, Gina Seward, Kellon Lincoln, Alyssa Fountaine, Christopher Boyea, Mackenzie Oldenburgh, Sophia Murtagh, Paisley Chatland, Gideon Jagers, Jillian Chapman, Aidan O’Neil, Brendan O’Neil, Ian Bigness, Karihwaierithan Jacobs, and Nick Rubacha.

Nuns/Neighbors of Captain/Novices/Postulants/Contestants at the Festival Concert:

Danielle Eggleston, Grace Favreau, Morgan Deragon, Aspen LaBarge, Peyton Brown, Marcella Perry, Carly Beckstead, Madeline Tusa, Carly Donnelly, Emmalyn Taraska, Juliana Miller, Hannah Dougherty, Emily Derouchie, Jaice Pike, Logan Dobbins

**Crews:**

Publicity: Mathis LeBlanc, Lainie Radley

House: Rebecca Castleman, MyKenzie Murphy, Molly Proper, Rachel Proper, Samantha Ashley, Destiny Lavare, Jazmyn Premo

Lighting: Lauren Duchscherer, Zoe Williamson, Max Szarka, Ella Thompson

Audio: Emily Ware, Aubrey Fournier, Ethan Chatterton, Garrett Engstrom, Sofia Kaye, Ethan Miller, Sarah Ward

Hair / Makeup: Ieronhenehtha Lazore, Abby Dargon, Maddy Gun, Kiara Mossow, Kali Joslin, Meredith Guyette, Hailey Premo, Leigha Premo, Madisin-Mei Pryce, Felicity Engstrom

Wardrobe: Arieana Kirkey, Kaylee Smoke, Kyleigh Holcomb, Lydia Perrine, Lizzy Brabant Emma O’Brien, Laura Guimond, Rilee Flanagan, Micaela Trimm, Emily Pedersen, Olivia Morrell, Megan McGowan, Keely Thompson-Cook, Emilie Fregoe, Jordan Hall Maddy Taylor, Emma LaBarge

Running Crew: Octavia Viskovich, Kelsey Baxter, Alissa Hunkins, Shakoronhioke: wen Jacobs, Marley Yepez, Agnes Wood, Aidan Shantie, and Morgan LeBire

Props: Oksania Hooper, Kaydence Ladison, Jenna Stiles, Stephanie Gardner, Anah Bogdan, Brenna Strickland, Emily Derouchie

Producer: Madeline Brown

Stage Manager: Mallory Sunday

Ass't Stage Manager: Molly Witkop

**Orchestra**—Michael Weil, Christian Hosmer, Ellen Weil, Amber Nezezon, Alex Conn, Sandy Steinberg, Dave Katz, Mike Draper, Charleen Dumas, Dale Kramer, Paul Haggett, Lee Bruso, Erika Kissam, Steve LaMere, Kenny Beckstead, Joey Marcello. Jon Hunkins, Jim, Forney, Sarah Towler, Andy Van Duyne, ZoeAnne Williamson, Chris Lincoln, Erica Sharpe, Kevin Marcinko, Sophia Kaye, Iris Walter, and DJ Broadbent.

**Set Building Crew**—Bud Draper, Lynne Draper, Michael Draper, David Chapman, Bob Page, Glenn Gardener, Adam Love, Dave Hadley, and Tracy Hadley.

**Set Painter:** Trish Murphy

**Food Coordinators**—Lisa Laughman, Lisa Witkop, and Monica Boyea

**Choreographer**—Brettany Lashomb, and Stacy Oloan

**Costumer**—Amanda Taraska

**Props Master**—Tracy Hadley

**Vaping Presentation**



Vaping has become an epidemic in schools across the country. Students are not only becoming addicted to nicotine through vaping but are using the devices for drugs as well. Learn what you can do to detect if your child is vaping. There will be a vaping presentation for adults on May 14th at the Massena Neighborhood Center from 6-8pm. Joey Boswell from Reality Check will be the presenter.

**Chasing the Dragon**

**VIDEO AND PANEL DISCUSSION**

**TUES., APRIL 9 | 6 — 8 P.M. | STUDENT CENTER FORUM**

**DID YOU KNOW THAT EVERY DAY, MORE THAN 130 PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES DIE FROM OVERDOSING ON OPIOIDS?**

These overdoses are not just from illicit drugs; in 2017, an estimated 1.7 million people experienced substance use disorders related to prescription opioid pain relievers.

We hope that you will join us on April 9 from 6-8:30 p.m. in the Student Center Forum, where we will be showing the documentary, *Chasing the Dragon: The Life of an Opiate Addict*. This documentary depicts the reality of opioid addiction and the path toward addiction. The documentary follows the lives of individuals who explain how they became addicted to opioid use and how their addiction changed their lives forever.

During this time, there will also be a panel consisting of police officers, EMS and other opioid and addiction experts, as well as family members of people with opioid addictions and a person recovering from opioid addiction, sharing their unique perspectives.

A partnership between the St. Lawrence County Public Health Department and Clarkson University's Doctor of Physical Therapy program

### **Massena CSD In The News**

#### **Sunday, March 24, 2019**

*"School districts seeing 5 percent increase in health insurance plan costs in 2019-20"* – Bob Beckstead, Watertown Daily Times

The increase in health insurance plan costs for all schools in St. Lawrence-Lewis counties, including the Massena Central School District, is reported.

Link:

<https://www.watertowndailytimes.com/news05/school-districts-seeing-5-percent-increase-in-health-insurance-plan-costs-in-2019-20--20190324>

#### **Wednesday, March 27, 2019**

*"Massena High School presents 'The Sound of Music' Friday"* – NC Now

The musical production of "The Sound of Music" performed by District students on March 29 and 30, 2019 is reported.

Link:

[https://www.northcountrynow.com/featured\\_events/massena-high-school-presents-sound-music-friday-0255523](https://www.northcountrynow.com/featured_events/massena-high-school-presents-sound-music-friday-0255523)

### **District Upcoming Events**

4/1-5—Grade 3-8 ELA Exams

4/4—BOCES Annual Meeting—5:00 pm—Canton BOCES Offices

4/9—Nightengale Elementary Spring Choral Concert—7:00 pm—NG Cafeteria

4/10—HS Band Concert—7:30 pm—HS Auditorium

4/11—JH Spring Instrumental Concert—7:00 pm—HS Auditorium

4/12—Give Back Day—No School

4/15-19—Spring Break