

Norwich School District 2020-2021 Proposed Budget Draft

Administration

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1

Our Mission:

Marion Cross School is a nurturing kindergarten- through sixth-grade public school that:

- ✧ Promotes educational excellence and fosters a lifelong love of learning.
- ✧ Empowers all students to realize their intellectual, physical, emotional, creative, and social potential.
- ✧ Partners with families and the community to develop responsible local and global citizens who can adapt to a changing world.

2020-21 Norwich Budget Guidelines

3

In an effort to achieve excellence in education, financial sustainability and public accountability in the Norwich School District, the Norwich School Board adopts the following budget guidelines for the development of the 2020-21 budget:

1. When preparing the budget, the administration and board should be mindful of the external factors that influence the final town tax rate (CLA, Dresden assessment, statewide education tax rate).

2. The administration should continue efforts to present creative staffing patterns that would result in efficient use of FTEs. In addition, the administration and board should use the budget process to determine if existing programs are making the most effective use of resources.

3. Strive to ensure that contract negotiations result in agreements that are beneficial to both staff and community.

4. The administration and board will provide information to help taxpayers understand the relationship between the budget and the quality of education provided by the District. To meet this goal, the board seeks a budget document that provides a written explanation of:

*The levels of proposed spending for 2020-21.

*The reasoning behind differences in the proposed spending levels for the 2019-20 budget versus the 2020-21 budget.

*The ability of the 2020-21 budget to promote excellence in the Marion Cross

School.

The Committee notes that Norwich budget "Quick Model" projects **a budget increase of approximately 4.41%**. Based on anticipated staffing increases to support increased enrollment and student needs, the budget committee is recommending an upper limit of 9%.

These "Quick Model" does not include the following additional cost factors that could add to the budget:

*settlement of a contract with the teachers and support staff union

*results of statewide healthcare negotiations which could have a significant impact on local negotiations

*the Federal government funding for education is volatile

*a 5-year building maintenance plan (including septic system repair/replacement)

*a Tier-2 Support System

Projected Enrollment

	Projected	Actual					
	<u>2019-20</u>	<u>2019-20</u>	<u>2020-21</u>	<u>2021-22</u>	<u>2022-23</u>	<u>2023-24</u>	<u>2024-25</u>
Kind	35	33	35	35	35	35	35
Grade 1	36	39	36	38	38	38	38
Grade 2	38	41	40	37	39	39	39
Grade 3	39	44	46	46	42	44	44
Grade 4	38	45	47	49	49	46	48
Grade 5	37	38	49	51	53	52	49
Grade 6	47	56	41	51	54	56	55
TOTAL	270	296	294	307	294	310	310
<u>PreK*</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>
TOTAL	284	309	308	321	308	324	324

*Pre-Kindergarten is a 1/2 day program

Cohort Survival Method Avg Past 5 years

K to 1	plus 3 students
1 to 2	plus 1
2 to 3	plus 5
3 to 4	plus 3
4 to 5	plus 4
5 to 6	plus 3

Actual enrollment as of October 1, 2019

Projected Class Sizes

Grade	PreK	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
# of Students	12	35	36	40	46	47	49	41
Sections	1	2	2	3	3	3	3	2
Average Class Size Based upon projections	12	18	18	14	15	16	16	20

Advantages:

- All children will have increased small group and individualized instruction from their teacher.
- The ability to include students with special needs is increased when the student to teacher ratio is reduced.
- Positive learning experiences as a result of more effective classroom management will be increased.

Proposed Personnel – FTE's

NORWICH FTE CHANGES	2018-19	2018-19	2019-20	2018-19 to 2019-20	2019-20	2019-20	2020-21	2019-20 Actual to 2020-21 Proposed Difference
	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Adj Budget</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Diff - Actual</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Regular Ed Teachers	19.20	20.70	19.75	-0.95	19.80	0.05	22.00	2.20
Regular Ed Assistants	3.65	3.65	4.00	0.35	3.91	-0.09	3.06	-0.85
Remedial Tutors (GF)	1.00	1.00	1.00	-	1.00	-	1.00	-
ESL Specialist	0.20	0.20	0.20	-	0.20	-	0.20	-
LEEEP Program Specialist	0.80	0.80	0.80	-	0.80	-	0.80	-
Technology Teacher	1.00	1.00	1.00	-	1.00	-	1.00	-
Special Ed Teachers	3.80	3.80	3.80	-	3.80	-	4.80	1.00
Speech & Language	1.00	1.00	1.00	-	1.00	-	1.00	-
Special Ed Assistants	17.65	17.65	16.81	-0.84	17.17	0.36	13.74	-3.43
Early Essential Ed Teacher	0.40	0.40	0.40	-	0.40	-	0.40	-
Guidance Teacher	1.00	1.00	1.00	-	1.00	-	1.00	-
Nurse/Health Specialist	1.00	1.00	1.00	-	1.00	-	1.00	-
Library/Media Specialist	1.00	1.00	1.00	-	1.00	-	1.00	-
Principal Administrator	1.00	1.00	2.00	1.00	2.00	-	2.00	-
Administrative Assistant	1.00	1.00	1.00	-	1.00	-	1.00	-
Front Office Ed Assistant	1.00	1.00	1.00	-	1.00	-	1.00	-
Custodial	3.00	3.00	3.00	-	3.00	-	3.00	-
School FTE Totals	57.70	59.20	58.76	-0.44	59.08	0.32	58.00	-1.08

Current Class Sizes

7

Grade	PreK	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
# of Students	12	33	39	41	44	45	38	56
Sections	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
Average Class Size	12	16	19	21	22	23	19	19

Challenges:

- Physical Space is limited with large class sizes.
- Children with special needs do not getting the appropriate amount of attention from the classroom teacher.
- Management of larger class sizes is difficult, causing more behavior interruptions.
- There is a limited ability for students to safely attend school field trips.
- Larger class sizes limit the ability of teachers to deliver a high quality curriculum that all students can access.

Included Increases:

- Medical Ins. Rate Increase: 12.9%, current census = \$66,652
- Net Total Salary Increases = \$225,025
 - Additional Teacher FTE's (3.20): \$189,216
 - Teachers - steps only (19-20 level): \$21,790
 - Teachers - 2 track advancements (19-20 level): \$7,623
 - Support Staff - steps only (19-20 level): \$8,710
 - Non-Union Increases (LEEEP, Admin.): \$19,734
- Special Education Out of District Tuition: \$68,700
- SAU70 Increase - currently projected at \$34,327
- Building & Grounds Improvements (discretionary): \$15,750
- Facilities Purchased Services: \$39,955

Not Included:

- Negotiated Wage Increases - both Unions

Projected Budget Overview by Function

<u>Function</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>2019-2020 Budget</u>	<u>2020-2021 Proposed</u>	<u>Incr-Decr</u>	<u>Percent</u>
		<u>Adopted</u>	<u>Budget</u>		
11xx	Regular Education	\$2,604,527	\$2,784,498	\$179,971	6.9%
12xx	Special Education	\$1,227,312	\$1,318,949	\$91,637	7.5%
21xx	Guidance & Health Services	\$213,464	\$226,074	\$12,610	5.9%
22xx	Curriculum/Staff Development, Media/Library	\$191,339	\$188,985	(\$2,354)	-1.2%
23xx	School Board & Superintendent Services	\$283,718	\$320,811	\$37,093	13.1%
2410	School Administration	\$459,842	\$484,146	\$24,304	5.3%
26xx	Building & Grounds Maintenance & Custodial	\$365,124	\$409,798	\$44,674	12.2%
27xx	Transportation Services	\$311,743	\$316,187	\$4,444	1.4%
3100	Food Service Operations	\$2,000	\$0	(\$2,000)	-100.0%
4xxx	Building & Site Improvements	\$90,450	\$106,200	\$15,750	17.4%
5xxx	Debt Service & Transfers	\$117,626	\$62,660	(\$54,966)	-46.7%
Totals		\$5,867,145	\$6,218,308	\$351,163	5.99%

Projected Budget Overview by Object

<u>Object</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>2019-2020 Budget</u>	<u>2020-2021 Proposed</u>	<u>Incr-Decr</u>	<u>Percent Diff</u>
		<u>Adopted</u>	<u>Budget</u>		
110	Teacher Salaries	\$2,204,714	\$2,467,598	\$262,884	11.9%
1XX	Other Salaries	\$974,010	\$936,151	(\$37,859)	-3.9%
2XX	Payroll Tax & Benefits	\$1,034,061	\$1,077,413	\$43,352	4.2%
235	Retiree Wages/Benefits	\$24,503	\$8,211	(\$16,292)	-66.5%
240	Staff Development	\$78,000	\$74,500	(\$3,500)	-4.5%
3XX	Purchase Prof & Tech Svcs	\$392,152	\$410,919	\$18,767	4.8%
4XX	Purch Prop Svcs	\$230,109	\$299,084	\$68,975	30.0%
5XX	Other Purch Svcs	\$331,608	\$339,092	\$7,484	2.3%
56X	Tuition	\$227,762	\$293,880	\$66,118	29.0%
6XX	Supplies	\$190,950	\$182,875	(\$8,075)	-4.2%
7XX	Property/Equipment	\$54,450	\$57,525	\$3,075	5.6%
8XX	Dues/Fees/Debt	\$55,826	\$56,060	\$234	0.4%
9XX	Transfers - Capital/Food	\$69,000	\$15,000	(\$54,000)	-78.3%
Totals		\$5,867,145	\$6,218,308	\$351,163	5.99%

Estimated Revenues and Net Assessments - subject to legislative changes

Item	2019-20	2020-21	\$ Chg	% Chg
<u>Appropriations</u>				
Marion Cross School	5,867,145	6,218,308	351,163	5.99%
<i>Approp Changes</i>	0	0		
Dresden Assessment (adj to actual)	6,486,961	6,757,272	270,311	4.17%
total	12,354,106	12,975,580	621,474	5.03%
<u>Revenues</u>				
(subtracted from appropriations to arrive at net assessment)				
<i>Local Sources</i>				
Tuition Income	0	15,796	15,796	
Interest on investments	16,000	25,000	9,000	
Other Local	14,350	750	(13,600)	
<i>subtotal</i>	30,350	41,546	11,196	
<i>State Sources</i>				
Vocational Aid	33,049	33,049	0	
Transportation Aid	119,144	121,498	2,354	
Spec Ed Block Grant	266,719	264,721	(1,998)	
Spec Ed Exp Reimbursement	465,704	472,471	6,767	
Spec Ed Extraordinary Aid	23,560	29,029	5,469	
Essential Early Educ	41,093	47,265	6,172	
State Placed Student(s)	0	31,589	31,589	
<i>subtotal</i>	949,269	999,622	50,353	
<i>Interfund Transfer</i>				
Transfer from Const Fund	230,452	330,452	100,000	
<i>subtotal</i>	230,452	330,452	100,000	
Total Budgeted Revenues	1,210,071	1,371,620	161,549	13.35%
from Prior Year Fund Balance	227,993	274,835	46,842	20.55%
+/- Revenue Changes		0		
Net Assessment	\$10,916,042	\$11,329,125	413,083	3.78%

Estimated Tax Rate Calculation subject to legislative changes

Line #	Item	Budgeted 2019-20	Estimated 2020-21	Chg	% Chg
1	Marion Cross School	\$5,867,145	\$6,218,308	351,163	5.99%
2	plus Dresden Assessment	6,486,961	6,757,272	270,311	4.17%
2a	Total Expenditures	12,354,106	12,975,580	621,474	5.03%
3	less Revenues and Fund Balance (excl Voc Aid)	1,405,015	1,613,406	208,391	14.83%
4	equals Education Spending	\$10,949,091	\$11,362,174	413,083	3.77%
4a	Plus or (minus) net budget changes	\$0	\$0		
5	Estimated equalized pupils	580.19	580.19	0.00	0.00%
6	Adjusted ES/Eq Pupil	\$18,872	\$19,584	\$712	3.77%
6a	Net Debt per Eq pupil	\$1,532	\$1,394		
6b	Net Special Ed Excess/VSTRS per Eq Pupil	\$37	\$50		
7	Adjusted ES/Eq Pupil for purposes of Excess Spending	\$17,302	\$18,140		
8	Excess Spending Threshold	\$18,311	\$18,756	\$445	2.43%
9	Per Pupil Spending above/(below) Threshold	(1,009)	(616)		
10	Per pupil figure for Calculating District Adjustment	\$18,872	\$19,584	\$712	3.77%
11	Base Amount	\$10,648	\$10,883	\$235	2.21%
12	District Spending Adjustment	177.231%	179.946%	2.72%	1.53%
13	Statewide Ed Tax Rate	\$1.000	\$1.000	\$0.00	0.00%
13a	Equalized Homestead Tax	\$1.7723	\$1.7995	0.0272	1.53%
14	Common level of appraisal	98.09%	94.16%	-3.9%	-4.01%
15	Estimated nominal tax rate	\$1.8068	\$1.9111	0.1043	5.77%
16	Income Sensitivity Percentage	2.89%	2.92%	0.03%	1.04%
17	Non Residential Tax Rate	\$1.580	\$1.654	0.07	4.68%
18	Divide by CLA	98.09%	94.16%	-3.93%	-4.01%
19	Nominal Non-Residential Tax Rate	\$1.6250	\$1.7566	0.1316	8.10%
Note: Tax rate info preliminary and subject to state legislative changes.					
	tax on a \$498,000 house	\$8,998	\$9,517	\$519	
	tax on a \$400,000 house	\$7,227	\$7,644	\$417	
	tax on a \$350,000 property	\$6,324	\$6,689	\$365	

Additional Thoughts, Other Potential Warrant Articles?

The Budget as built does not include settlement amounts for union contracts currently being negotiated. Steps are built into the salary sections for both unions as well as a projected health insurance increase of 12.9%. Replacement and/or upgrade of the sewer system will be addressed in the 2021-22 budget year.

Other Potential Warrant Articles might include:

- ▶ Transfer to Maintenance Reserve - current balance \$121,187
- ▶ Transfer to Special Education Reserve - current balance \$58,715

No other Articles have been ratified for the 20-21 Budget