



OUR DISTRICT WELCOMES

- students of all races, ethnicities and nationalities
- students with diverse abilities
- students who are LGBT
- students of all family structures
- students who are English language learners
- students of all religions
- students from all socio-economic backgrounds
- students of all body types

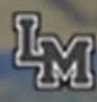
...YOU



Safe, Supportive, Inclusive

Lower Merion School District is committed to providing a safe, supportive and inclusive learning environment for all students and employees.


[Read More »](#)



Lower Merion Board of School Directors

PROPOSED FINAL 2019-20 BUDGET PRESENTATION

April 29, 2019

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Some important highlights

The District did not file a Preliminary Budget with the state this year.

A Preliminary Budget is associated with the request to apply for exceptions which is not part of this year's financial plan. An Initial Budget plan was presented on January 28, 2019.

Our use of fund balance to balance the budget will be \$1.6 million compared to \$3.7 million in this year's budget.

We are anticipating increased revenue and that is reflected in the budget.

We continue to have challenges due to increased enrollment.

We continue to plan both for near and long term goals.

2019-20 Budget Cycle

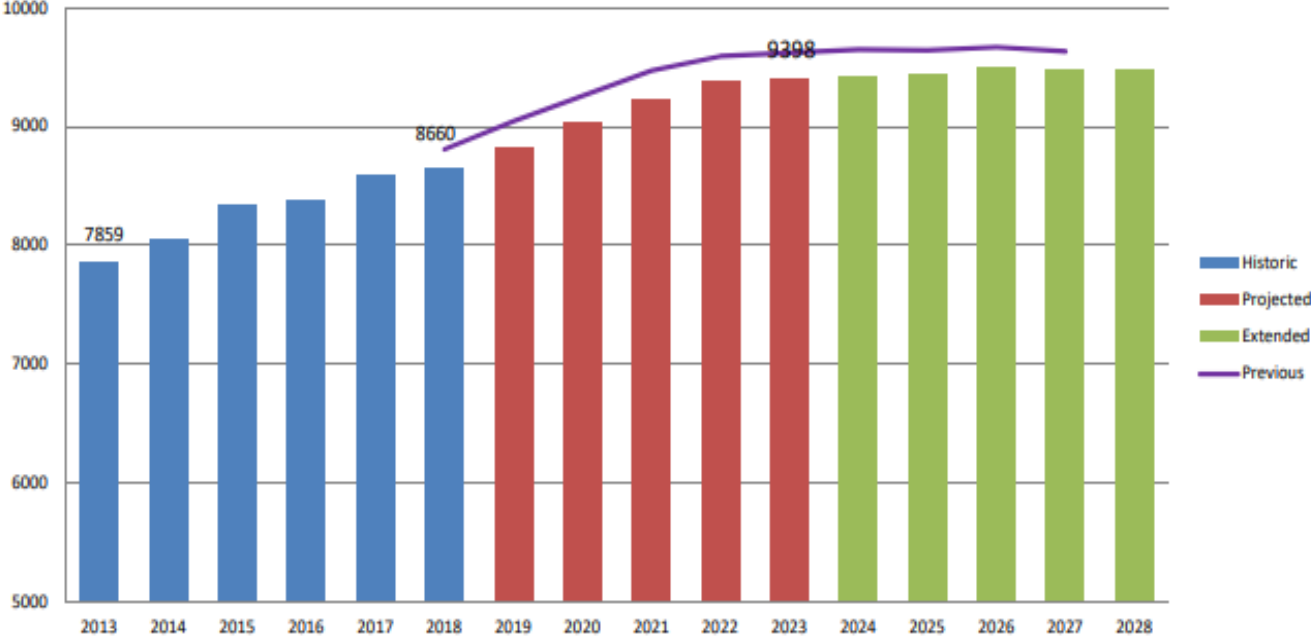
Act 1

- Adopt Resolution certifying millage rate will not exceed 2.3% index
- Budget Finance Committee Meetings:
 - Operations Presentation 3/13/19
 - Student Services Presentation 4/3/19
 - Staffing and Information Systems 4/24/19
 - Curriculum Presentation 5/15/19
- Adopt Proposed Final Budget
- Adopt Final Budget

What Drives the Budget?

1. Instructional Programs - maintaining low class size while continuing student programs
 - a. Enrollment Growth
 - b. Personnel Costs
 - c. Special Education Mandates
2. No/Minimal Increase in State or Federal Funding

District-wide Enrollment Projections K-12



Lower Merion District-wide

145 Public School Students from new housing

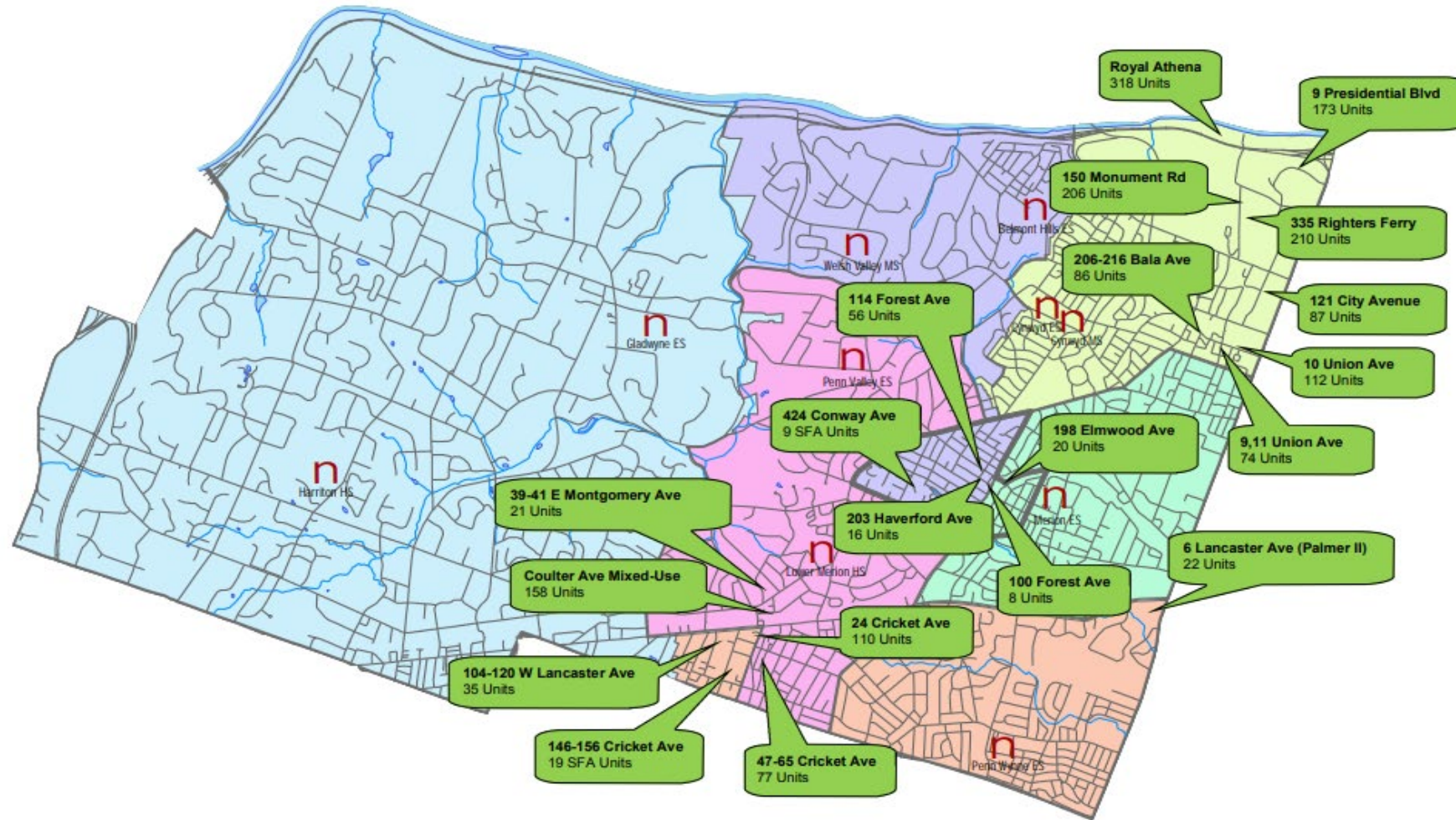
		TOTAL	Average	Change	%Chg	Previous
Historic	2013	7,859				
	2014	8,053				
	2015	8,341				
	2016	8,382	8,314			
	2017	8,590				
	2018	8,660		801	10.2%	8,810
Projected	2019	8,823				9,047
	2020	9,033				9,261
	2021	9,222	9,171			9,472
	2022	9,377				9,594
	2023	9,398		738	8.4%	9,621
Extended	2024	9,431				9,650
	2025	9,448				9,644
	2026	9,508	9,472			9,670
	2027	9,490				9,632
	2028	9,482		84	0.9%	

The 2018 projection runs 225-250 students less per year than the 2017 projection. That is the equivalent of 17-19 students per grade.

Enrollments are projected to grow at a slower rate than in the recent past.

Source: Sundance Associates 2018-19 Enrollment Projection Update

PROPOSED FUTURE HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS



Source: Montgomery County Planning Commission 2018-19 Enrollment Projection Update

2019-20 PROJECTED PERSONNEL NEEDS DRIVEN BY ENROLLMENT GROWTH AND PROGRAMMATIC ENHANCEMENTS

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS			
LEVEL	SCHOOL(S)	POSITION	FTE
ELEMENTARY	BH/GLES	Increase Instructional Support Teacher (IST) FTE to support student needs	0.7
	CY/GL/MRES	Classroom Teachers based on projected enrollment	1.5
	GLES	Autistic Support Teacher to support incoming student needs	0.5
	PWES	Increase Instrumental Music Teacher FTE	0.1
		Increase Math Support Teacher to support student needs/enrollment	1.0
	ALL ES	English Language Development Teacher to meet student needs	1.0
	TOTAL		

Non-PUB	Certified School Nurse to support needs in non-public schools	1.0
ALL Public Schools	Speech Therapist to support growing student needs	1.0
TOTAL		2.0

**2019-20 PROJECTED PERSONNEL NEEDS DRIVEN BY
ENROLLMENT GROWTH AND PROGRAMMATIC ENHANCEMENTS (con't)**

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS			
LEVEL	SCHOOL(S)	POSITION	FTE
MIDDLE	BCMS	Classroom Teacher (English) to support teaming model	1.0
		Learning Support Teacher to support incoming student needs	1.0
		Increase Spanish Teacher FTE to accommodate student choice/enrollment	0.7
	WVMS	NOW Classroom Teachers to initiate program	2.0
		Autistic/Emotional Support Teacher to support incoming student needs	1.0
	ALL MS	Latin Teacher to accommodate student choice/enrollment	1.0
	TOTAL		
HIGH	HHS	Increase Spanish Teacher FTE to accommodate student choice/enrollment	0.8
		Communications Teacher to initiate program	1.0
		Learning Support Teacher to support incoming student needs	1.0
	LMHS	Increase Spanish Teacher FTE to accommodate student choice/enrollment	0.8
		Increase Latin Teacher FTE to accommodate student choice/enrollment	0.2
		Biology/Chemistry Teacher to accommodate student choice/enrollment	1.0
		Social Studies Teacher to accommodate student choice/enrollment	1.0
	ALL HS	College Access Counselor to support growing student enrollment	1.0
TOTAL			6.8

**2019-20 PROJECTED PERSONNEL NEEDS DRIVEN BY
ENROLLMENT GROWTH AND PROGRAMMATIC ENHANCEMENTS (con't)**

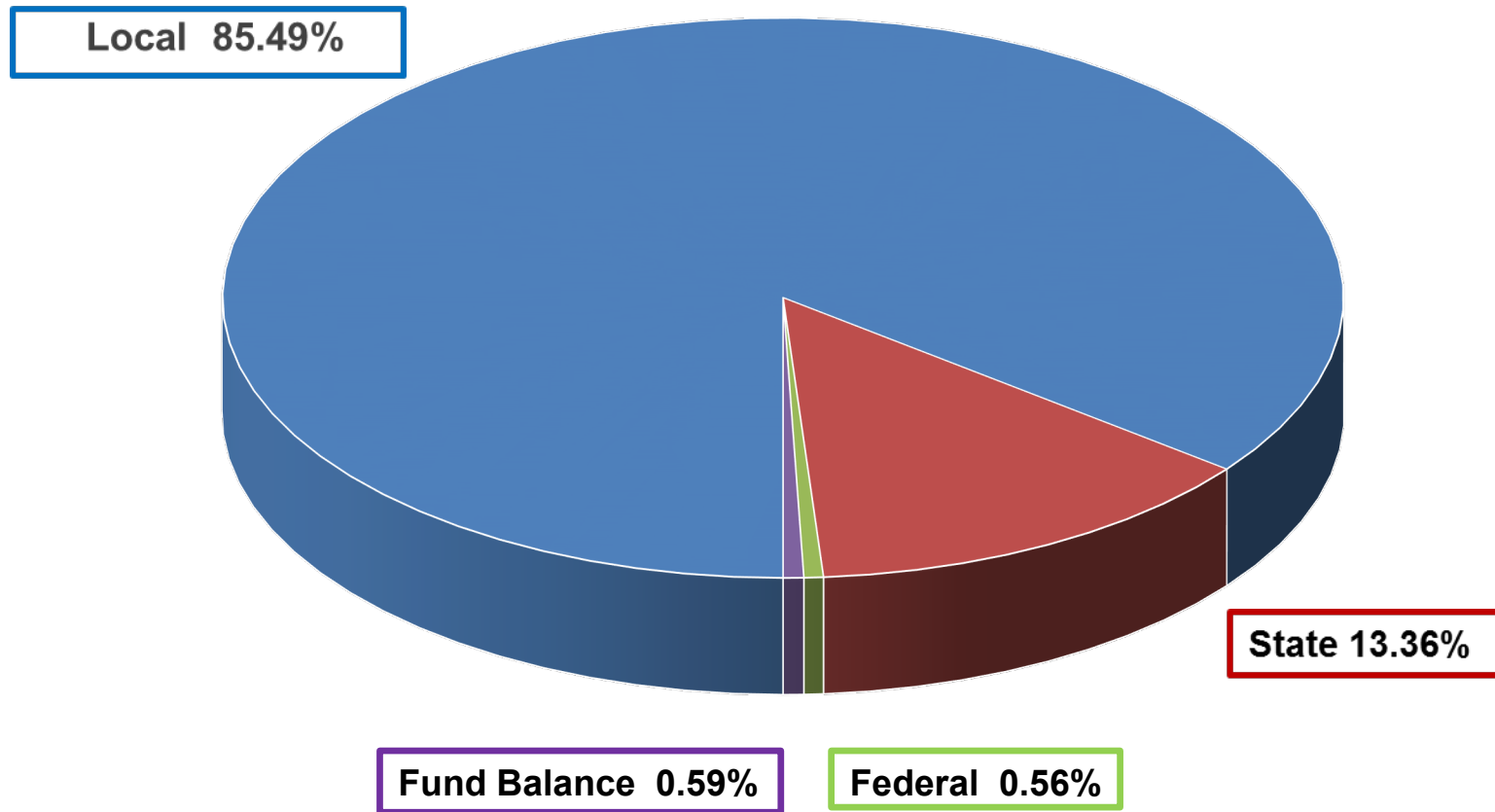
SUPPORT/ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF POSITIONS			
LEVEL	SCHOOL/DEPT	POSITION	FTE
MIDDLE	WVMS	Instructional Aide to support NOW program	1.0
	TOTAL		1.0
HIGH	HHS	Instructional Aide to support Communications program	1.0
	TOTAL		1.0
ALL	BUSINESS	Contract/Procurement Specialist	1.0
	TRANSPORTATION	Bus Drivers	3.0
	ALL	Instructional Aides to support growing student needs	3.0
	TOTAL		7.0

2019-20 Budget Highlights

Uncertain Issues

- Current and Future tax revenues
- State Budget – Governor presented the Commonwealth Budget in February
- Pending Budget Litigation

Where the Money Comes From

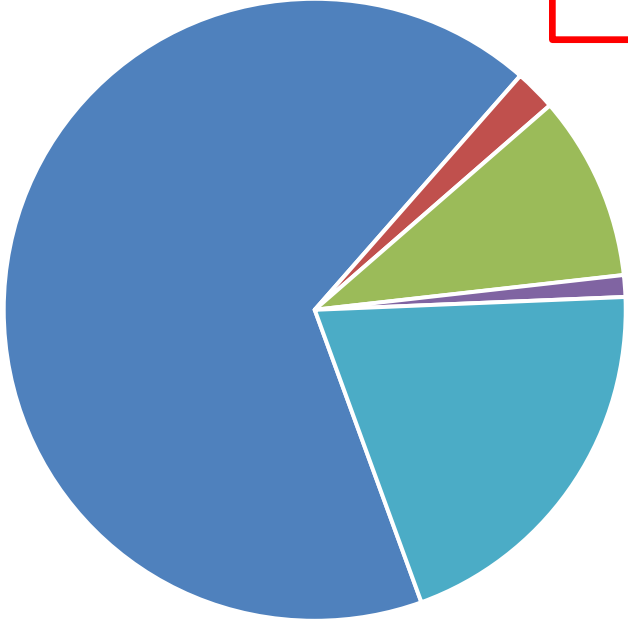


Anticipated Revenue		
	Budget	Proposed Final
Description	2018-19	Budget
		2019-20
Fund Balance Funds Designated as a Revenue	18,660,792	1,623,988
<u>Local Sources</u>		
Current Real Estate Taxes	217,677,074	221,930,390
Interim Real Estate Taxes	600,000	800,000
Public Utility Realty Tax	210,000	218,000
Local Services Tax	210,000	212,000
Realty Transfer Taxes	3,700,000	4,000,000
Delinquent Real Estate Taxes	3,600,000	3,750,000
Interest Income	1,150,000	2,500,000
Tuition - Summer Programs	170,000	170,000
IU Federal Funds	1,265,000	1,250,000
Misc. Other Local Sources	155,000	235,000
Total Local Sources	228,737,074	235,065,390

Anticipated Revenue (cont'd)	Budget 2018-19	Proposed Final Budget 2019-20
<u>State Sources</u>		
Basic Education Funding Subsidy	3,892,946	3,992,490
Special Education Subsidy	2,961,349	2,979,328
Transportation Subsidy	2,400,000	2,425,000
Revenue for Social Security Payment	4,800,000	4,875,000
Revenue for Retirement	21,000,000	22,000,000
State Property Tax Reduction Allocation	3,473,709	-
Health Services Subsidies	250,000	250,000
Rental & Sinking Fund Reimbursement	200,000	200,000
Misc. Other State Subsidies	25,000	25,000
Total State Sources	39,003,004	36,746,818
<u>Federal Sources</u>	1,458,679	1,537,000
Total Revenue	269,198,757	273,349,208
Total Revenue and Designated Fund Balance	287,859,549	274,973,196

How Does The Money Support Our Children?

INSTRUCTIONAL SVCS 66.59%
Regular Education
Special Education
Vocational Education
Summer Programs
Student Services
Guidance Services
Psychological Services
Curriculum Development
Staff Development
Library Services
Technology Services



NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SVCS 2.12%
Athletics
Student Activities

DEBT SERVICE 9.40%

OTHER FINANCING USES 1.90%

SUPPORT SERVICES 19.99%
Board Services
Tax Collection
Administration
Legal Services
Maintenance & Operations
Public and Non-Public Transportation

DESCRIPTION	Budget 2018-19	Proposed Final Budget 2019-20
Salaries	129,832,743	132,268,403
Benefits	75,767,496	80,700,668
Other	81,459,310	66,307,776
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Purchased Professional and Technical Svcs (IU services, consultants, etc) - Purchased Property Svcs (utilities, repair work, leases etc) - Other Purchased Svcs (tuition payments to charters, special ed, vo-tech, general insurance, contracted transportation) - Supplies (general supplies, books, software licenses, fuel, etc) - Property (equipment) - Other Objects (debt service payments) 		
Budget Reserve	800,000	800,000
	287,859,549	280,076,847
Tax Monies required to balance the Budget		5,103,651
Budgeted Mill Value	7,689,191	7,719,935
Additional Increase in Mills Required		0.6611
Total Mills	28.7477	29.4088
Mills Increase		2.30%
Budget Expenditure Increase		-2.70%

Real Estate Tax Change

Median Household Assessment*		\$250,680
2018-19 Real Estate Tax mill rate	28.7477	
Face amount of 2018-19 Real Estate Tax		7,206
2019-20 Real Estate Tax mill rate	29.4088	
Face amount of 2019-20 Real Estate Tax		7,372
	Tax Increase	\$166

*Median household assessments provided by Montgomery Co. Board of Assessments

Financial Impact of Millage Uncertainty

Current Unassigned Fund Balance	\$20,000,000
Segregated for Litigation (for 4 years)	16,000,000+
Available Unassigned Fund Balance	4,000,000

For each year that we don't have resolution to budget litigation, we segregate \$4+ million. If the District does not prevail, it would cause a drastic reduction in fund balance which would have a negative impact on our credit rating.

Budget Calendar - 2019

Finance Committee Meetings - Presentations on the following departments budget:

March 13 - Operations including Facilities and Transportation

April 3 - Student Services including Gifted and Talented

April 24 - Staffing and Technology

May 15 - Curriculum and Instruction

April 29 - Proposed Final Budget Approval

May 20 - Public Inspection Deadline of Proposed Final Budget

May - Superintendent presentation to Federations (date to be determined)

May 26 - Public Notice of Intent to adopt 2019-20 Budget

June 10 - Final Budget Approval/Adoption

Lower Merion School District: A Public School System

Independent schools implement a stringent vetting process designed to ensure that students entering will be successful. Public schools encourage all students – no matter where they are from, no matter their skills in language or mathematics, no matter their religion or beliefs and strive to provide a superior education – and we represent what has been a crown jewel in our republic – a public education.

