



Half Hollow Hills
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

2020-2021

ANNUAL REPORT



**Committed to
providing all
students with
opportunities to
excel in
academics,
athletics, and the
arts.**

An education-oriented community with high academic expectations, the Half Hollow Hills Central School District is located in a residential area of 50,000 people in the central part of Long Island, approximately 40 miles from New York City. Providing for the education of over 7,500 students, the school district has five elementary schools, two middle schools and two high schools. Half Hollow Hills high schools are fully accredited by the New York State Department of Education.

A photograph of four students standing outdoors on a paved area, possibly a school driveway. They are all wearing black face masks. From left to right: a girl in a light blue hoodie, a boy in a black hoodie, a girl in a white hoodie, and a girl in a red and black plaid shirt. They are holding small American flags on wooden sticks. In the background, there are green trees, a white building, and a yellow school bus with the number 89 and a stop sign. The word "OVERVIEW" is written in large, white, sans-serif capital letters across the bottom of the image.

OVERVIEW

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

The 2020-2021 school year provided school districts with a variety of new challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic, from establishing alternative methods of providing instruction to protecting the health and safety of our students and staff. As we tackled these challenges head-on, we continued to deliver on our mission of providing all students in Half Hollow Hills with opportunities to excel in academics, athletics and the arts.

The students of Half Hollow Hills had many outstanding academic accomplishments in 2020-2021, including four National Merit Scholars, one Coca Cola Scholarship Semifinalist and 282 AP Scholars with Distinction. Both of our high schools were ranked in the top 3.25% of high schools in the nation by U.S. News & World Report.

The Fine Arts program was distinguished with Scholar Artist Awards, as well as numerous awards in art, music and theatre throughout the year. Our student athletes brought home several team and individual League and County championships.

Our goal for the 2021-2022 school year is to ensure equitable access to education for all our students while continuing to maintain a safe and healthy environment for everyone in our school community.

Dr. Patrick Harrigan
Superintendent of Schools



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**Our goal is to
maximize the
achievement of all
students.**

”

2020-2021 Board of Education Trustees

Eric Geringswald, President

David Kaston, Vice President

Diana Acampora, Trustee

Betty DeSabato, Trustee

Stephanie Gurin, Trustee

Adam Kleinberg, Trustee

Michael Prywes, Trustee



**BOARD OF
EDUCATION**

DISTRICT PROFILE

History

Originally called Half Way Hollow Hills, because it is found just about halfway between the Long Island Sound and Atlantic Ocean, our school district merged with the Dix Hills School District in 1931, and then further enlarged by merging with the Upper Melville and Sweet Hollow School Districts in 1954.

Today we operate nine schools serving students from Dix Hills, Melville, Wheatley Heights, and parts of Deer Park, Huntington, East Farmingdale and East Northport.



Enrollment

High School East: 1,609

High School West: 1,116

West Hollow Middle School: 1,059

Candlewood Middle School: 729

Vanderbilt Elementary: 713

Signal Hill Elementary: 659

Otsego Elementary: 578

Paumanok Elementary: 535

Sunquam Elementary: 522

Total: 7,520

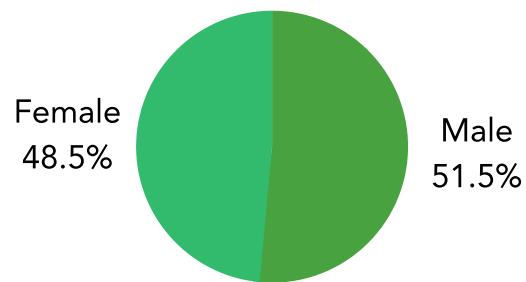
Other Enrollment Data

Students with Disabilities: 20%

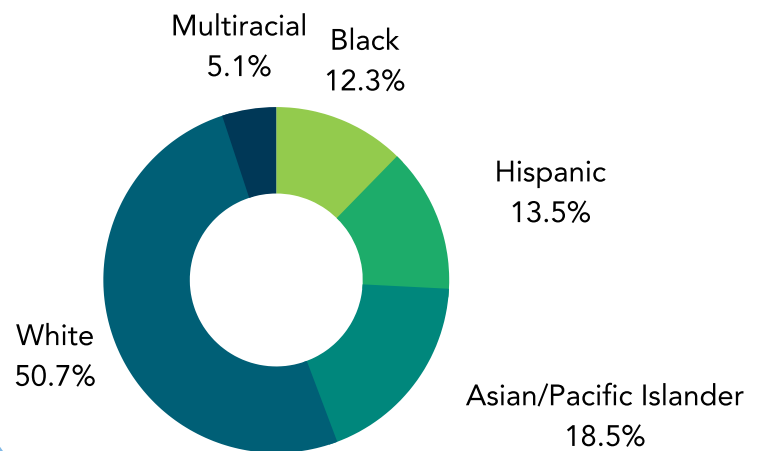
Economically Disadvantaged: 23%

English Language Learners: 3%

Gender



Ethnicity



Data From NYSED BEDS Day - 10/7/20

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

HALF HOLLOW HILL

FACULTY

Half Hollow Hills educators are dedicated, knowledgeable and highly skilled professionals who go beyond expectations to teach, inspire and nurture our students. We adhere to exceptionally high standards in selecting teachers and staff for our district. There are 745 teachers with an average of over 16 years of experience. Ninety eight percent have earned Master's degrees or higher and 19 hold National Board Certification.

The staff regularly participates in professional development to strengthen their abilities and stay current with new and evolving strategies to better serve our student population. Nearly 35 of our own teachers and administrators led over 100 professional development courses in 2020-2021.

Our teachers engage students in high quality, meaningful and unique learning experiences which assist them in reaching their full potential. Teachers care about our students and exhibit this through all that they do in the classroom, during their non-teaching time and in extracurricular activities. The professional staff in our district provides an exceptional learning environment for students and makes Half Hollow Hills a great place to learn.

98%

Have a Master's Degree
or higher

19

Hold National Board
Certification

6

New York State Master
Teachers



Central Administration Team

Dr. Patrick Harrigan
Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Jeffery Woodberry
Asst. Superintendent for Districtwide Administration

Ms. Diana Ketcham
Asst. Superintendent for Elementary Education

Ms. Anne Marie Marrone Caliendo
Asst. Superintendent for Finance and Facilities

Mr. John O'Farrell
Asst. Superintendent for Secondary Education



**DISTRICT
LEADERSHIP**

ACADEMICS

The Half Hollow Hills K-12 program is designed to meet the individual needs of all students. Our diverse population includes many students at various levels of educational development.

Our high schools offer strong academic programs including 29 Advanced Placement courses and 25 Honors and/or college-level courses that are offered in collaboration with Stony Brook University (ACE Program), Long Island University (High School Scholars Program) and Farmingdale State (High School Program). Additionally, students have an opportunity to earn the AP Capstone Diploma™ or the AP Seminar and Research Certificate™. Both schools offer “Project Lead the Way” Engineering courses affiliated with Rochester Institute of Technology, and a “Senior Experience” program for a select group of senior-year students that combines English 12 and Government/Economics into a Humanities-based curriculum. Incorporated into the “Senior Experience” is a required year-long professional internship.

Many students enroll in Independent Studies in World Languages, including American Sign Language, Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Hebrew, Greek and Russian. A select group of students participates in our competitive Independent Science & Math Research Programs, culminating in various national events and competitions.

Several students participate in the BOCES Wilson Tech Program for their junior and/or senior year. Others audition to participate in the BOCES Long Island High School for the Arts, available to juniors and seniors. Both high schools offer extensive extra-curricular clubs and organizational activities as well as interscholastic athletic programs, intramural sports and community service opportunities.



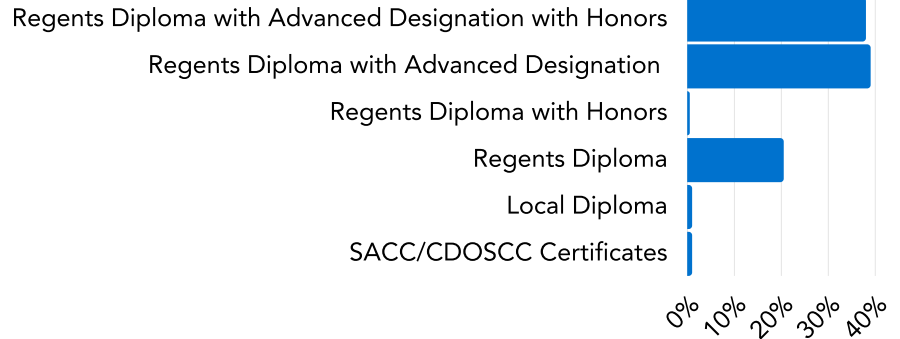
Individual Accomplishments

- 4 National Merit Scholars
- 16 National Merit Finalists
- 16 National Merit Semifinalists
- 33 National Merit Commended Students
- 1 National Merit Emory University Scholarship
- 1 National Merit Public Service Enterprise Group Scholarship
- 1 Congressional Award
- 1 Coca Cola Scholarship Semifinalist

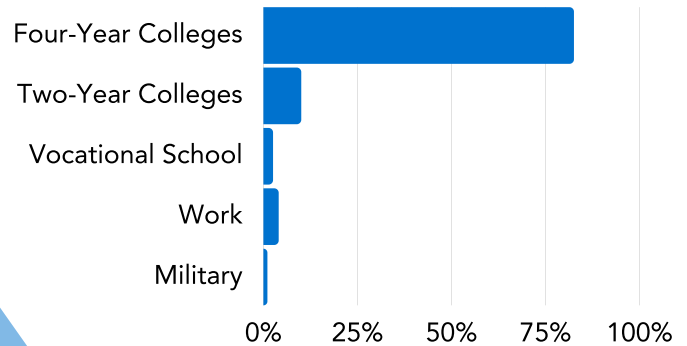
AP Performance

- 40 AP Seminar & Research Certificates
- 66 AP Capstone Diplomas
- 1 AP International Diploma
- 282 AP Scholars with Distinction
- 107 AP Scholars with Honor
- 209 AP Scholars

Graduation Degree Data



Post-Graduation Plans



GRADUATION DATA

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Elementary Activities Included:

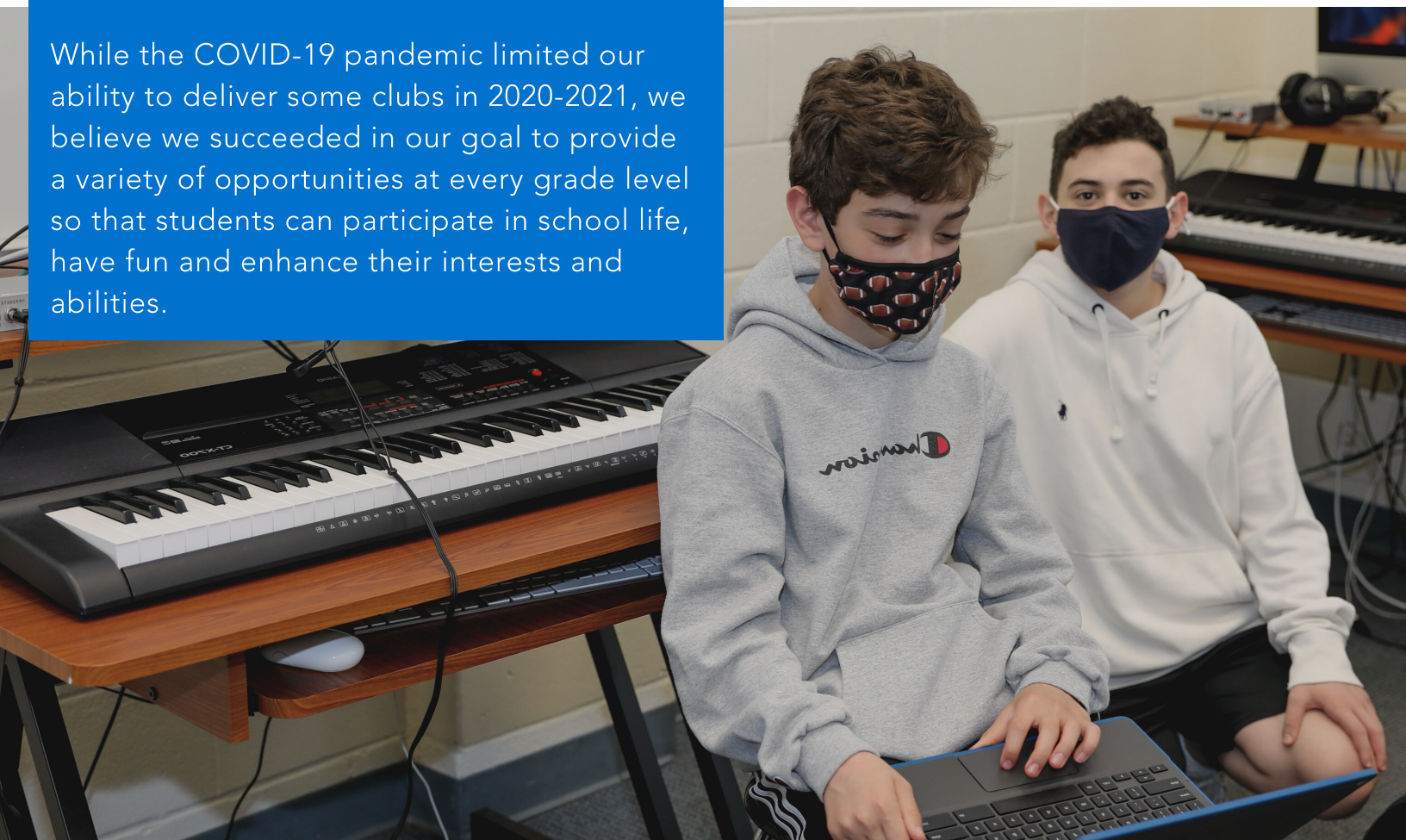
- Hang Out & Read Book Club
- Intramurals
- Kindness Club
- Social Game Club
- Fun With Friends

Secondary Activities Included:

- Yearbook
- Mock Trial
- Student Government
- Robotics
- Journalism
- National Honor Society
- Science Olympiads
- Mathletes
- Gay Straight Alliance
- Tri-M
- Environmental Club
- Muslim Student Organization
- Racial Equity Alliance
- Coding Club

Half Hollow Hills believes that participation in activities outside the classroom plays an important role in our students' academic, social and emotional development.

While the COVID-19 pandemic limited our ability to deliver some clubs in 2020-2021, we believe we succeeded in our goal to provide a variety of opportunities at every grade level so that students can participate in school life, have fun and enhance their interests and abilities.



Half Hollow Hills offers our middle and high school students many opportunities to participate in sports. Our teams are very competitive and succeed at the local, regional and state levels.

56

Varsity Teams

30

Junior Varsity Teams

45

Modified Sports Teams

High School West:

- Girls Golf League Champions
- Boys Spring Track League Champions
- Girls Soccer Division II Champions
- Boys Soccer League III Champions
- Boys Basketball League V Champions and Suffolk County Conference III Champions
- 18 Scholar Athlete Teams

High School East:

- Suffolk County Female Dellacave winner
- County Championship in the Girls High Jump (Spring)
- Boys Basketball League III Champions and Suffolk County Conference II Champions
- 18 Scholar Athlete Teams

Joint:

- HHH Boys Badminton League I Champions
- HHH Girls Badminton Suffolk County Champions
- HHH Girls Swimming & Diving League I Champions
- HHH Boys Swimming & Diving 15th Consecutive League I & County Championship
- HHH Girls Fencing League Championship
- 12 Scholar Athlete Teams



ATHLETICS

FINE ARTS

Theatre Programs:

- Drama clubs are offered from grades 5-12, and each year there are two musical productions at each middle school, as well as one drama and one musical production at each high school.
- Hills on Stage is offered for all elementary 5th graders and brings together more than 80 students from all five elementary buildings.
- Recent productions have included a Tribute to Neil Simon, Give My Regards to Broadway, Nowadays: A Musical Review, The Wonderful World of Disney, Dear Edwina, Guys and Dolls Jr.

Music Programs:

- More than 2,500 students participate yearly in performance ensembles that include concert bands, orchestras, choirs, wind ensemble, jazz bands, vocal jazz, a cappella groups and guitar ensembles.
- Students have access to a full recording studio, broadcast studio, and music recording and production technology courses.
- 2 LIAA/Newsday Scholar Artist Awards in Dance
- 1 LIAA/Newsday Award of Merit in Visual Arts
- 8 All-State Musicians
- 2 All-Eastern Musicians
- 1 All-National Musician
- 41 NYSCAME HS All-County Musicians
- 130 SCMEA All-County Musicians Grades 5-10
- 64 LISFA Musicians Grades 5-12

Art Programs:

- High school art classes are offered in all of the traditional arts, as well as multimedia design, photography, architecture and fashion design.
- Annual art shows are displayed at the elementary, middle and high school levels.
- Student art is exhibited at Long Island's Best at The Heckscher Museum, the Huntington Tulip Festival, Huntington Arts Council, Huntington Camera Club, Art League of Long Island and Congressional Art Contests.
- Student artists have won numerous scholarships and contests, both locally and nationally, including, top scholarship winners at the Suffolk County Art Leaders Association All-County Exhibit and Scholastic National finalists and Gold and Silver Key winners.



Half Hollow Hills provides special education and related services to meet the needs of students who are identified as having a disability. Our programs and services are designed to ensure that children with disabilities receive appropriate and equal opportunities for their educational growth. We are proud to be able to offer a myriad of opportunities along the continuum of a student's development. This continuum includes related services, resource room, integrated co-teaching, special classes, as well as out-of-district options. Each of these opportunities is available to students in grades K-12. Our district prominently features programs for students with autism and other developmental disabilities within our in-district classes. These classes allow students to challenge the curriculum and grow according to their individual educational needs.

The Hills Academy

The Hills Academy is an in-district program. It is a program designed for students of average to above average intelligence who possess social/emotional issues which impact their ability to meet with success in the high school. Students are in classes taught by dual certified special education and content area teachers, follow the Half Hollow Hills academic curriculum, work towards a New York State Regents or Advanced Regents diploma and students have an opportunity to challenge the curriculum to earn honors status for their core academic classes. Within the program are two mental health professionals, a school psychologist and social worker, who provide individual and group counseling, weekly communication with the families, home visits and are available at any time a student feels the need to speak with a mental health professional. The Hills Academy staff identify personal goals with each student that are worked on in conjunction with the tenets of the program to build the skills and strategies needed to return to the larger high school setting. The ultimate goal is to provide students with the tools, resources and skill-set to be successful; we want our students to attend school on a regular basis and help to develop the skills/tools to transition successfully back to the high school. In this safe, structured environment, students will gain academic and social skills as well as develop self-discipline to return to their respective high school.



**PROGRAMS FOR
STUDENTS WITH
DISABILITIES**

ENGLISH AS A NEW LANGUAGE

In Half Hollow Hills, approximately 40 home languages represent the diverse population in the ENL (English as a New Language) program. Our 17 ENL teachers service approximately 300 students in the district with varying proficiency levels of the English language. As a department, they work with students and their families, helping them adjust to our district and the community. Our ENL teachers work with students in their integrated classrooms and in a stand-alone setting to best meet their individual needs based on the CR Part 154 regulations. Professional development has been provided to general classroom teachers to educate them about the English Language Learners in the district and strategies to help them provide appropriate instruction during their transitional period of learning English. ENL teachers continually collaborate as a department and with classroom and special area teachers to ensure that their students are doing well academically, socially and emotionally.



\$125,865

Raised in matching
dollars for Students
Rebuild Challenge

12,636

Students Rebuild
Challenge projects
submitted

2020-2021 Service Learning Programs

- Students Rebuild Hunger Challenge
- Cody L. Byrnes Memorial Foundation Super Hero T-shirt Day
- Teen Promise Fundraisers
- "Kids Need More" Fundraisers

Half Hollow Hills encourages all of our students to participate in service learning programs to learn about the importance of volunteering, while building a life-long love of giving back to their community.

These initiatives help develop leadership skills and well-rounded young adults, while benefitting important causes.

SERVICE LEARNING



COMMUNICATIONS

Half Hollow Hills is dedicated to continual and transparent communication with all of our stakeholders. We engage with them by providing valuable and necessary information through a wide variety of tools and channels. District communications are distributed using the following methods:

- Parent Portal and Student Portal
- Learning Management System (LMS)
- Automated calling and email system
- District and school websites
- Social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn)
- Local media including print, TV, digital and radio in the Long Island and Metro-NY markets
- Community engagement via meetings, guest speakers and direct communication
- Electronic newsletters and printed communication, district-wide and within individual schools

5,800

Facebook Followers

790

Twitter Followers

3,890

Instagram Followers



2020-2021 Capital Project Highlights

- High School East Domestic Hot Water Tank
- West Hollow Cooling Tower

The Half Hollow Hills Central School District maintained 15 buildings in 2020-2021 including one administration building, five elementary schools, two middle schools, two high schools, a transportation building, a natatorium and a maintenance building. These buildings encompass over 1.5 million square feet sitting on over 300 acres.

In 2020-2021 the district was also landlord to four tenants in two closed buildings, maximizing revenue from the unneeded space.

1.5m

Square feet of space

300+

Acres



**BUILDINGS AND
GROUNDS**

TRANSPORTATION

8,500

Daily bus stops

950k

Bus stops per year

950k

Miles driven each year

The Half Hollow Hills Transportation Department is committed to safely and efficiently transporting our approximately 7,500 students to and from school every day. The district has its own fleet of buses and contracts many other buses from a private bus company in the local area to transport students to and from school.

There are almost 350 bus routes in our district with approximately 8,500 bus stops each day, equaling 950,000 bus stops each year. Our buses travel over 950,000 miles each year.

The Transportation Department's greatest strength is its dedicated staff who ensure the safe transportation of every student, every day.



The Half Hollow Hills Central School District recognizes that a nutritious, well-balanced and reasonably-portioned meal is essential for student wellness. We do not serve foods that contain tree nuts or peanuts. Meals are analyzed for nutritional content to ensure we are meeting Federal, State and local regulations.

In our second year impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, with most elementary students in 5 days a week and our secondary schools in a hybrid schedule, our Food Services department was incredibly fluid with our meal service. Half Hollow Hills took advantage of Federal funding and waivers in order to provide free meals for all students. We are proud to have served 79,535 free breakfasts and 273,498 free lunches in the 2020-2021 school year.

353,033

Free meals served



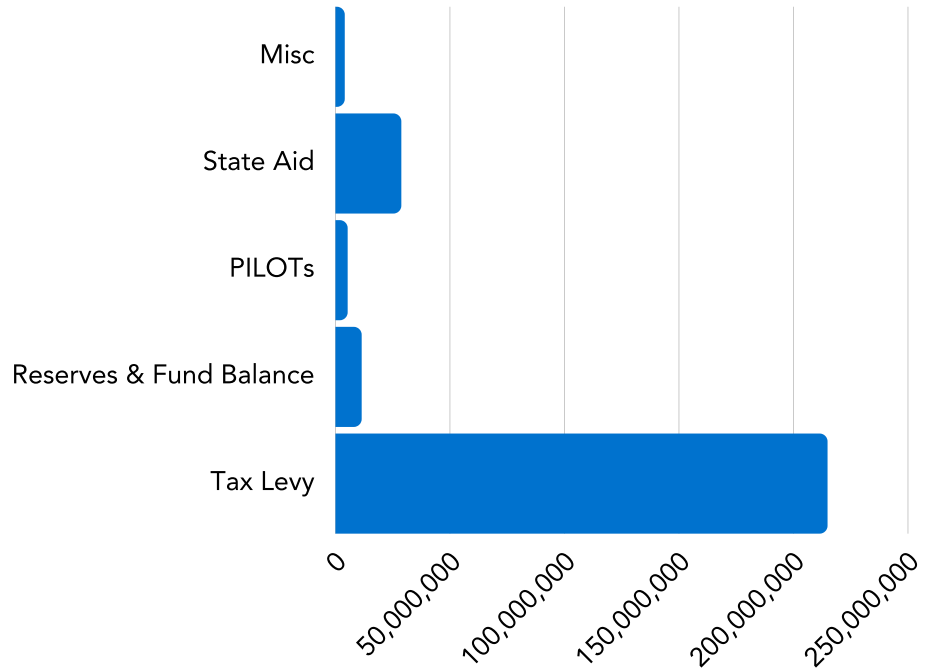
FOOD SERVICES

FINANCIALS 2020-2021

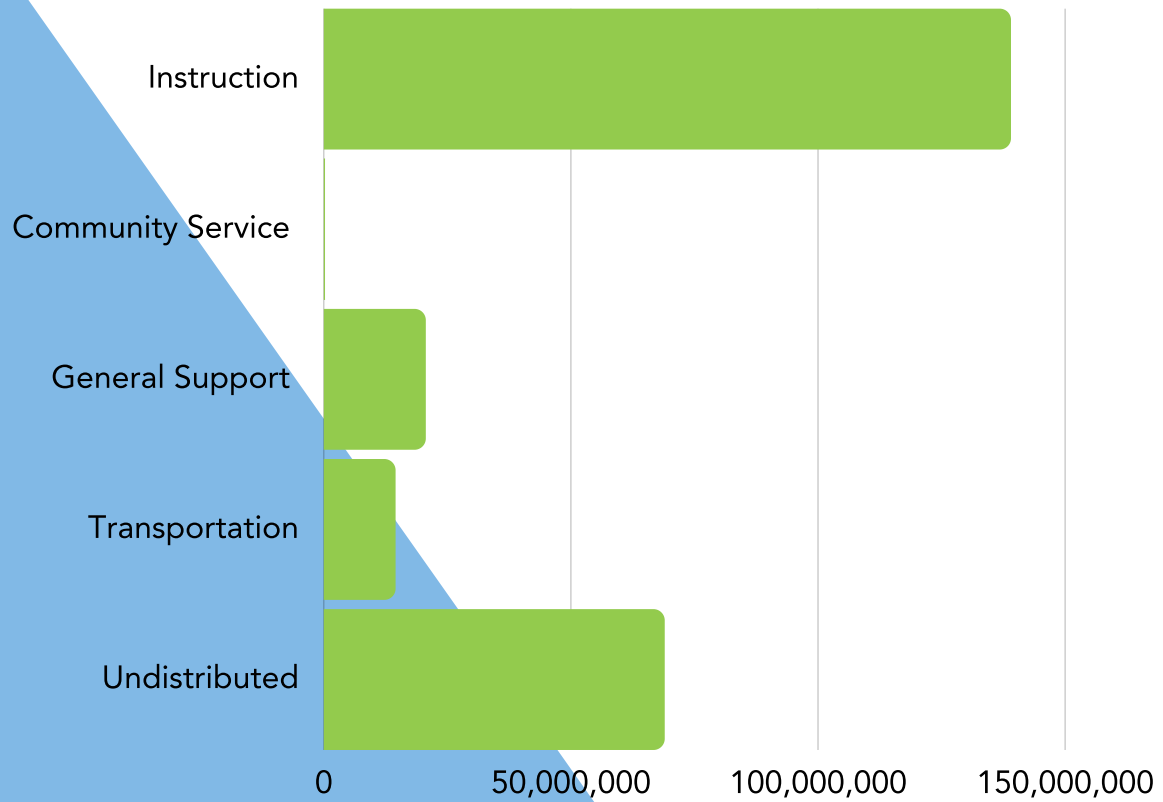
The leadership of the Half Hollow Hills Central School District is committed to responsible stewardship of the funds it receives from all sources, including taxpayers, as it administers the annual budget.

We continually scrutinize spending to ensure every dollar is spent appropriately, always with the focus on student learning. In 2020-2021, the total budget expenditures were \$242 million with over 80% percent spent on instruction and learning.

2020-2021 Revenue Overview



2020-2021 Expenditures



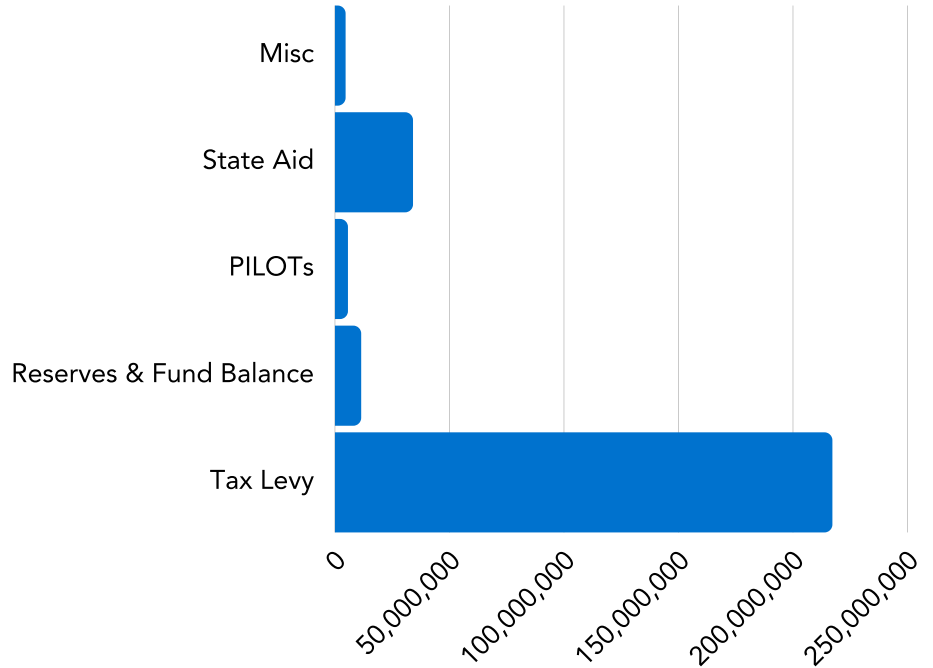
**FINANCIALS
2020-2021**



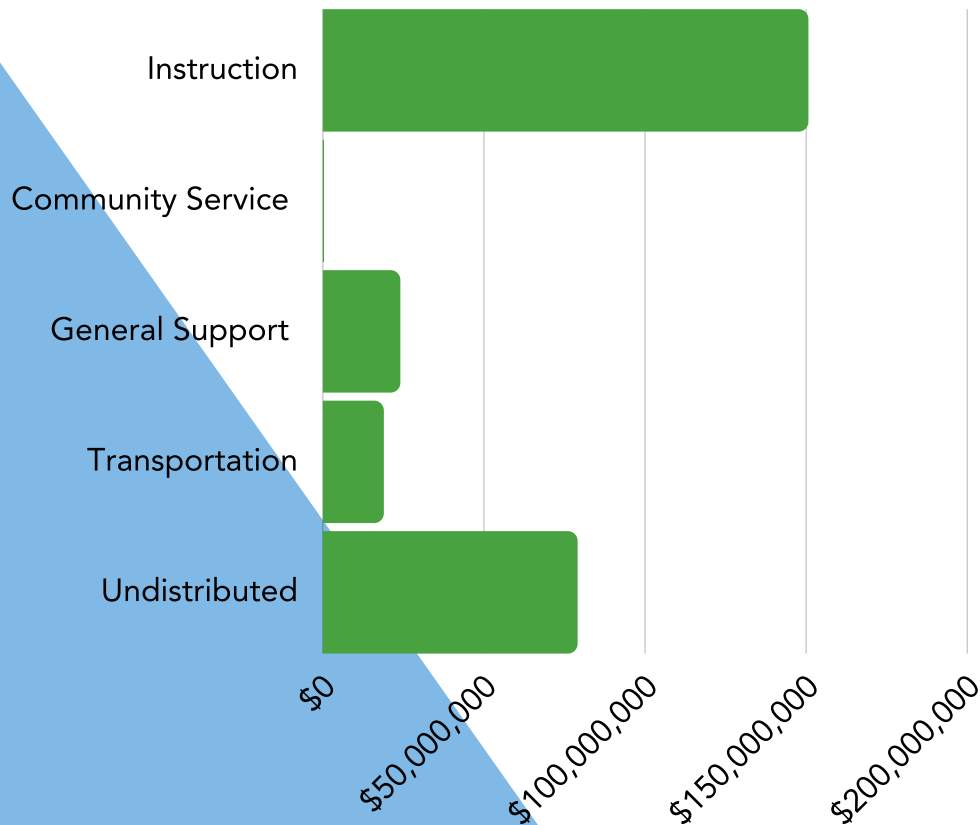
FINANCIALS 2021-2022

The 2021-2022 budget for the Half Hollow Hills Central School District was developed to provide all the programs and services students need to excel, while also allowing for investments in our facilities. The 2021-2022 budget adheres to the property tax levy cap formula with a total budget increase of 2.85% allowing for many new and expanded opportunities for students.

2021-2022 Anticipated Revenue Overview

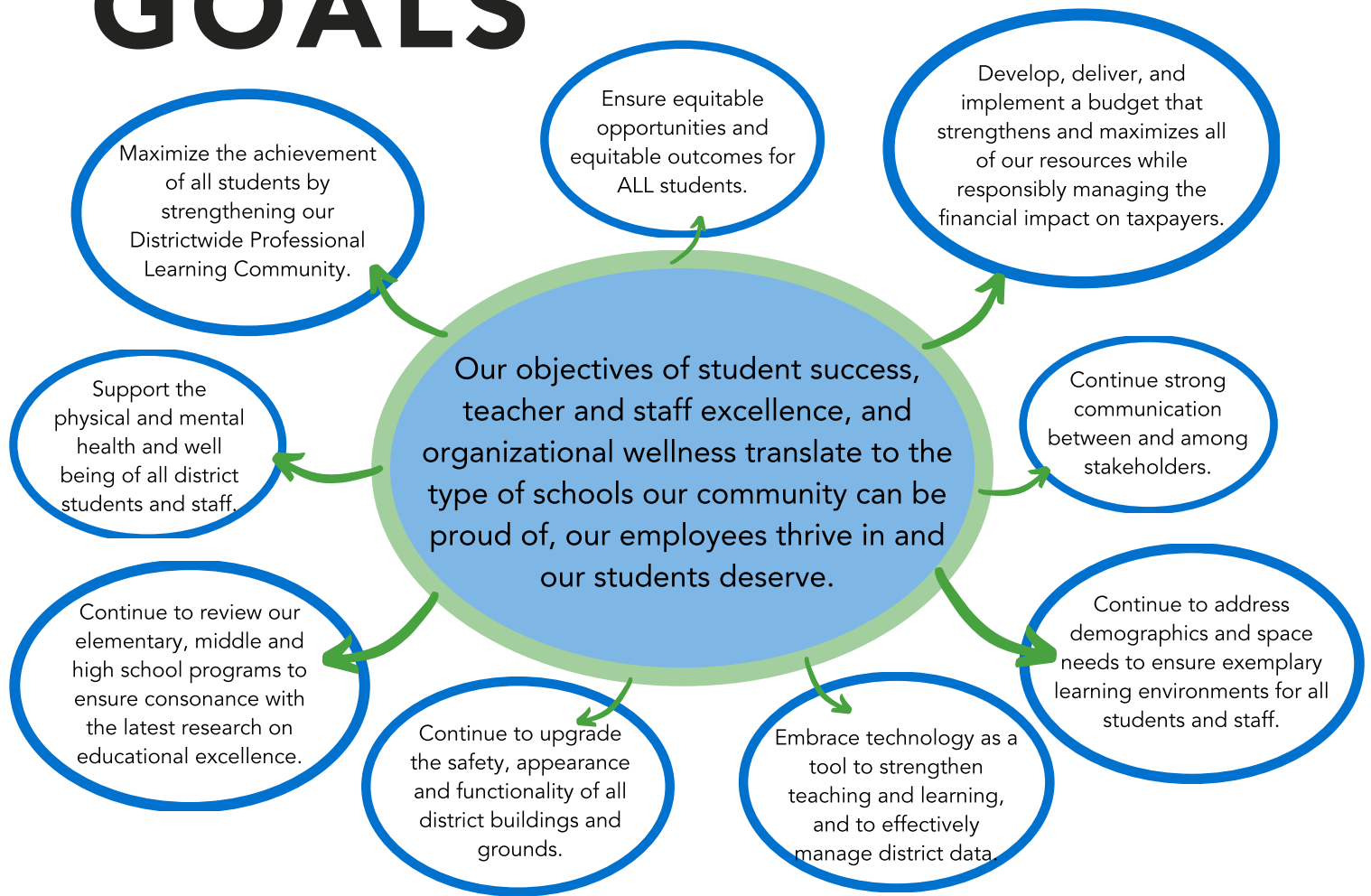


2021-2022 Anticipated Expenditures



**FINANCIALS
2021-2022**

GOALS





Half Hollow Hills

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Half Hollow Hills Central Office Administration

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