

Tredyffrin/Easttown School District Annual Update

2022-2023 BUDGET SUMMARY

In the 2022-2023 school year, the T/E School District and its 750+ staff members will serve approximately 7,000 students and maintain eight schools, a central administration office, a maintenance/storage facility and a network operations center. The 2022-2023 budget supports the T/E School District's strong educational program and services while complying with government mandates.



Authorized 2022-2023 Budget

On June 13, 2022, the T/E School Board approved the 2022-2023 Final Budget with an approved authorized budget of \$166,643,058. The 2022-2023 Final Budget authorizes \$166,643,058 in spending supported by \$160,236,676 in revenue and \$6,406,382 of reserves.



Closing the Gap

The \$6 million deficit in the 2022-2023 operational budget was balanced with a fund balance contribution of \$1.6 million and a property tax rate increase of 2.95% or \$190 on the average assessed home in T/E.



Strategies Impacting the Budget

In total, budgeted expenditures were reduced by implementing strategies of departmental and building-level budget reductions. In addition to adjusting revenue and expense budget assumptions, additional grant funds and state subsidies returning to pre-COVID levels helped to lessen the budget gap.



Impact on Homeowners

The budget includes a property rate tax increase of 2.95% or \$190 on the average assessed home in T/E. Homeowners eligible for the homestead/farmstead exclusion under Act 1 of 2006 will receive a reduction of \$240 on their 2022 property tax bills from state gaming revenue.

BUDGET FAST FACTS

Total Authorized Spending

\$166,643,058

Property Tax Increase

2.95%

Mills

25.8536

Property Tax Increase on the Average T/E Home

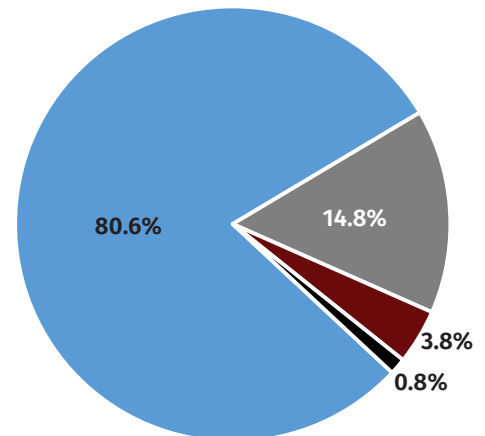
\$190

Homestead Exemption

\$240

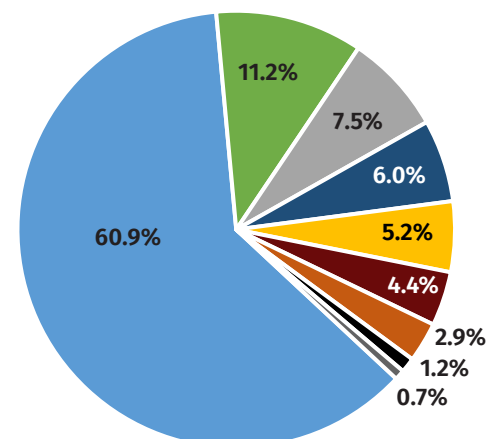
REVENUES/SOURCES

Local: 80.6%	\$134,298,303
State: 14.8%	\$24,594,665
Fund Balance: 3.8%	\$6,406,382
Federal: 0.8%	\$1,343,708
TOTAL	\$166,643,058



EXPENDITURES/USES

Instruction: 60.9%	\$101,403,502
Operations: 11.2%	\$18,616,229
Instructional Support: 7.5%	\$12,543,216
Administrative Costs: 6.0%	\$10,043,083
Transportation: 5.2%	\$8,747,765
Debt Service: 4.4%	\$7,377,592
Contingency: 2.9%	\$4,800,000
Extracurriculars/Athletics: 1.2%	\$1,911,671
Transfer to Capital Fund 0.7%	\$1,200,000
TOTAL	\$166,643,058



For more detailed information on the 2022-2023 budget, visit the T/E School District website at www.tesd.net/budget.



SCHOOL YEAR SUCCESS

THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR WAS MARKED BY NUMEROUS DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

GRADUATION AND COLLEGE ENROLLMENT

The Conestoga High School graduation rate consistently approaches 100%. Approximately 95% of seniors attend a four-year college and 3% attend a two-year college. In a typical year, more than 75% of Conestoga graduates attend colleges listed in *The Best 378 Colleges*, a publication of *The Princeton Review*.

STRONG STANDARDIZED TEST SCORES

T/E continues to be one of the top performing school districts on the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA), which is administered to every 3rd - 8th grade student in Pennsylvania public schools.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT TESTS

Nine hundred Conestoga High School students completed 1883 Advanced Placement (AP) tests in 33 different subjects. The average score was 3.71 on a 5 point scale. Scores of 3 or higher indicate college readiness. 88% of the tests administered at Conestoga were in the 3 point or better range.

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARS

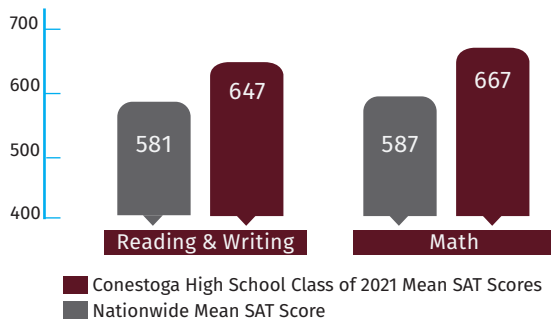
In the fall of 2021, Conestoga High School led Pennsylvania with 39 National Merit Semifinalists, 50 National Merit Commended Students and 5 National Hispanic Scholars.

NATIONALLY RANKED SCHOOLS

T/E School District and its individual schools consistently rank high among public schools nationally in commercial publications.

SAT SCORES

Conestoga High School students scored well above the national average on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) with a mean score of 647 in Evidence-Based Reading & Writing and a mean score of 667 in Math.



STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE

Through surveys, interviews and community forums, more than 2,000 TESD stakeholders provided feedback to support the development of the District's new Strategic Plan. The Plan includes eight strategies and will be presented to the School Board for review in August 2022. For more information, visit www.tesd.net/strategicplan.

- **CHANGE** - capture, exchange and memorialize lessons evolving from the pandemic and harness opportunities for continued growth and development.
- **CURRICULUM** - create an inclusive learning culture that promotes academic and social emotional skills while valuing multiple pathways to student success.
- **ENGAGEMENT** - pursue effective and authentic engagement to maximize communications and connections with stakeholders.
- **EQUITY** - foster an atmosphere where all voices are heard, respected and valued by evaluating systems, policies and practices through a lens of equity.
- **FACULTY SUPPORT** - empower, support and nurture faculty and staff as valued individuals, collaborative innovators and essential catalysts.
- **MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING** - proactively work in partnership with families to prioritize mental health and social-emotional well being of students.
- **SAFETY** - vigilantly ensure all students, families, staff and community members are safe in our schools, feel a sense of belonging, and are partners in school safety.
- **SUSTAINABILITY** - plan for and provide infrastructure and sustainable resources to accommodate the District's evolving needs.

MAJOR COST DRIVERS OF THE BUDGET

While salaries and benefits consistently make up the bulk of the District's total budget, three of the largest cost drivers behind the need for increases in expenses are capital improvements, special education services and state-mandated contributions to the Public School Employees' Retirement System (PSERS).

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Currently, the Board is planning an athletic fields project adjacent to Conestoga High School that will include two turf fields, a softball field, tennis courts, a practice field, a field house with team rooms, concession stand and restrooms, bleachers, a grounds maintenance facility and a parking lot. The preliminary construction budget for the athletic fields project is about \$24 million with a timeline of completion in late summer of 2024. Based on the current capital funds balance and projected operating transfers of about \$3 million annually, the District estimates that it will need to issue bonds to produce proceeds of \$10 million in late 2023 and another \$20 million sometime in fiscal year 2024-25. Upon issuing bonds, the annual debt service payments would increase by approximately \$1.5 million. The impact of the increase in debt service on the tax rate is approximately 1.2% over a three-year period.



Conestoga High School student officers participate in the ribbon cutting ceremony for the school's new expansion and renovation project in October 2021.

During the summer of 2021, the Conestoga High School expansion and renovation projected was completed. The project came in at \$39.6 million and added classroom space, labs, an additional art room and kitchen, flexible space for meetings and group instruction, and expanded common areas throughout the school.

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

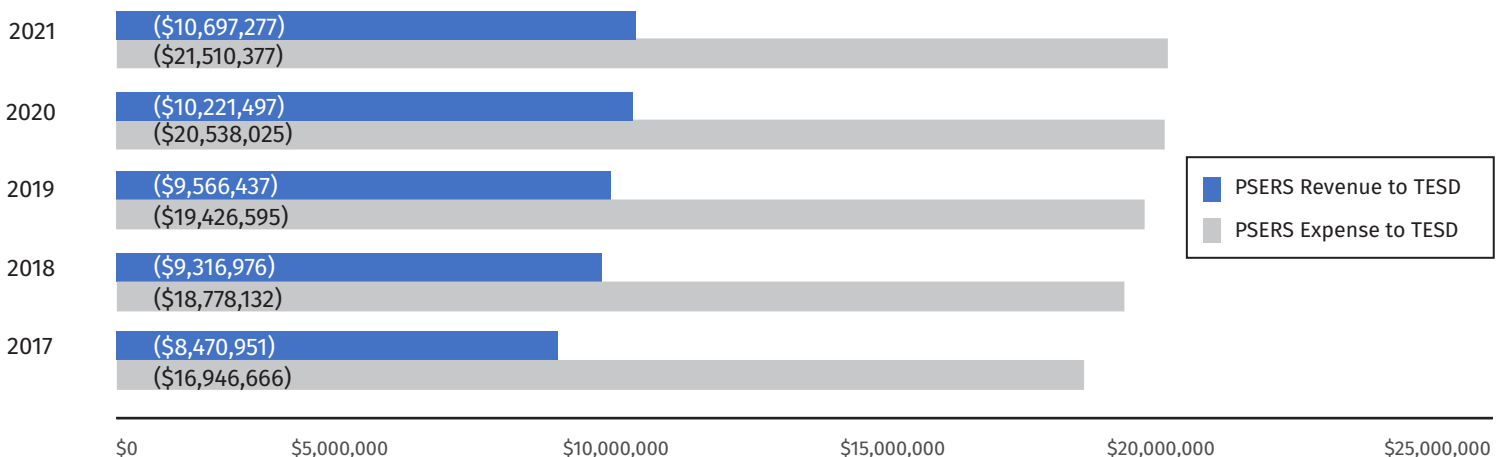
TESD remains strongly committed to meeting the needs of all of its students and provides a continuum of services for regular and special education students to ensure appropriate services are available at all grade levels. The District is pleased that students resumed full-time, in-person instruction this school year and continues to provide labor intensive services to students with identified needs. This year, the District also provided additional services in the form of COVID-19 compensatory services. These services are determined by the IEP team for students who had a lack of progress while school was not in session due to the pandemic.

As in previous years, TESD continues to experience growth in the need to provide programming for students with more intensive needs. This need for specialized programming impacts all components of staffing, including special education teachers, paraeducators and behavior specialists and are necessary to provide appropriate programming for all students. To aid in managing these expenses, the District continues to use a variety of vendors for more specialized services such as behavior specialists and registered behavior technicians. Unfortunately, funding from the state and federal level remains relatively flat, while total expenses for TESD students continues to rise.

MANDATED RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTIONS

All Pennsylvania school districts are mandated by the PA legislature to contribute a percentage of their payroll to the funding of the Public School Employees' Retirement System (PSERS). Since 2006, percentage of the Employer Contribution Rate (ECR) has increased from 6.46% to 35.26% in 2022-2023. The net increases of the ECR have significantly impacted the TESD budget, ballooning from \$1.6 million in 2006 to \$11.26 million in 2022-2023.

ANNUAL NET COST IN PSERS EXPENSE TO T/E SCHOOL DISTRICT





Points of Pride

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR



CITADEL HEART OF LEARNING

Conestoga High School world languages teacher **Orlando Carvajal** was selected as T/E's representative in the 2022 Citadel Heart of Learning Award program. Each year Citadel receives thousands of nominations for this nationally recognized award, which honors educators who make a difference in their community. Congratulations to Orlando and all T/E teachers who were nominated for the award.

VEX ROBOTICS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

After winning the PA State Championship, **Conestoga High School's Robotics Teams** advanced to compete against 814 teams from 40 nations at the championship in Dallas, Texas. Conestoga's teams finished as division finalists and semifinalists.

PENNSYLVANIA MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION ALL-STATE MUSICAL GROUPS

Conestoga High School students were selected to participate in the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) **All-State Choir, All-State Band** and **All-State Orchestra**. The ten All-State participants advanced to the state competition after successfully qualifying for district and then regional competitions.

GOVERNOR'S PA STEM COMPETITION

Conestoga High School was named second runner up in Division 1 of the Governor's PA STEM Competition hosted by Pennsylvania Department of Education. The theme of this year's competition was: "Improving Pennsylvania Through STEM."

MATHCOUNTS & PA MATH LEAGUE COMPETITIONS

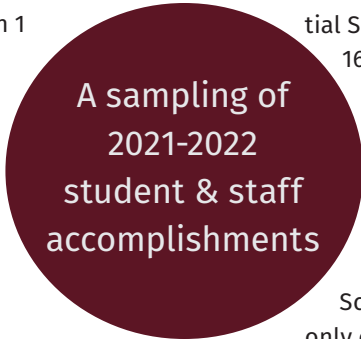
Tredyffrin/Easttown Middle School and **Valley Forge Middle School math competition teams** were top ten scorers for Chester County at the 2022 Chester County **MATHCOUNTS Competition**, with students from both middle schools advancing to the state level competition in Harrisburg. In addition, students from T/E Middle School and Valley Forge Middle School successfully participated in the **PA Math League Competition** with multiple top ten finishes at the county and state competitions.

DISTRICT ONE AND STATE ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES

Conestoga High School teams won five District One Championships: **Field Hockey, Girls Tennis, Boys Soccer, Girls Swimming** and **Girls Lacrosse**. **Girls Tennis, Boys Soccer** and **Girls Lacrosse** went on to win PIAA State Championships.

U.S. PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLAR

Conestoga senior and *Folio* literary editor **Stella Lei** was selected as a U.S. Presidential Scholar by the U.S Department of Education. This year, the Presidential Scholar Program recognized 161 high school seniors from across the country for their accomplishments in academics, the arts, and career and technical education fields. Stella was also named a U.S. Presidential Scholar in Arts for 2022. She is only one of four students nationally to receive double awards.



DECA COMPETITIVE EVENTS PROGRAM

Conestoga High School's Distributive Educations Clubs of America (DECA) members competed at the DECA College and Career Competitive Events Program in Atlanta, Georgia. Conestoga students were recognized at the competition for their work in the categories of entrepreneurship, restaurant food service management, business law and ethics team decision making.

LEARN MORE

- Visit www.tesd.net/budget for additional budget information.
- Sign up to receive the T/E School District's e-newsletter, *t/e-news*, at www.tesd.net.
- Tune into TETV, Comcast Channel 14 and Verizon Channel 20, for school district programming. Visit www.tesd.net/tetv for schedules.