

SPECIAL EDITION

MAY 2015

2015-2016 District Budget

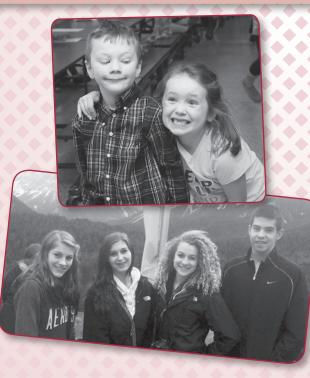
Proposed School Budget 2015 - 2016

Proposed Budget: \$25,585,252

Estimated Tax Levy Reduction = -0.78%

Estimated Budget Increase = 3.26%

Kids First in Every Decision!



^{5th Annual} SUMMer Camp

We are holding an informational and sign-up meeting on Tuesday, May 12, at 6:00 p.m., in the HS Library. Please Join Us!

Superintendent's Message

We are very pleased for the fifth year in a row to be able to propose a budget to voters with a negative tax levy. We recognize the financial challenges our community has endured and it is important for you to know the Board of Education and myself have continued to have the financial health of our district as one of the key goals. This year has been an extremely successful year for our district. Our student academic scores have continued to improve and more students are taking advantage of our vast number of enrichment opportunities and specialized programs. We are very excited about the direction we are moving in and expect that the great teaching staff that is in place will continue to maintain their very high and rigorous standards for students. Allowing every student with the opportunity to be college or career ready is our main focus. We encourage you to visit our website (www. sidneycsd.org) or our Facebook page to see the great work our staff and students do on a regular basis.

The election on May 19th will have four questions this year. The first question will be the approval of the \$25,585,252 budget and -.78% tax levy. The second question will be the consideration for approval of the Sidney Memorial Public Library budget of \$611,425. Third, the authorization for the school district to purchase or lease school buses in the amount not to exceed \$400,000. Lastly, we are requesting the authorization for our next phase of capital projects in the amount of \$14.1 million.

The lease is a new request for us, but in looking at our bus fleet we are recommending that rather than buying one bus a year we begin to lease multiple each year. This will help control maintenance costs and address some of the aged buses in our fleet. The bus lease payments will be equivalent to what we have been typically budgeting for on an annual basis. As a result, there is no new cost, but it does require voter approval.

The \$14.1 million capital project is the next phase of capital improvements we have planned. As you know, the last project renovated the athletic fields, the auditorium, and reduced/replaced the elementary and middle school boilers. The project also included several other items that reduced our energy consumption. This project will renovate the elementary school wing, replace bathrooms, replace old cabinets, and improve the academic classrooms. The project will also finish the roof re-coatings, redo some of the parking lots, and upgrade windows and ventilation systems along with many other areas. We have worked with our financial advisors to utilize EXCEL funds from the state (\$673,623) and our capital reserve to reduce the local cost to approximately \$39,274 a year. This is about \$2.15 per year on a \$100,000 house. Of course, like we have done for the past five years, we will attempt to budget that cost and minimize any tax increase from the project.

In closing, we are all preparing for the end of another school year and hope you will join us on May 19th from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium Hallway for the vote. If you have any questions, the newsletter will provide you quite a bit of information, but I would also encourage you to contact me directly through our website budget page that can be found on the main page of the website *(www.sidneycsd.org)*. The link will allow you to email any questions you may have. Thanks again for your continued support of our district and I look forward to working with you in the future.

> - Dr. Bill Christensen, Superintendent of Schools wchristensen@sidneycsd.org



School Budget Propositions

Proposition 1

Shall the Board of Education of the Sidney Central School District be authorized to expend sums set forth in the 2015-16 school year proposed budget in the amount of \$25,585,252.

Proposition 2

That the Sidney Memorial Public Library proposed budget for the 2015-16 fiscal year in the amount of \$611,425 be adopted.

Proposition 3

To authorize the Sidney Central School District to purchase buses, at a maximum estimated cost not to exceed \$400,000 and that so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments with District obligations (including the use of lease purchase) to be issued in anticipation thereof.

Proposition 4

To authorize the Sidney Central School District to implement a school district improvement program consisting of renovations to buildings, including site work, as well as original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, and other improvements and costs incidental thereto, at a maximum estimated cost of \$14,186,000 and that \$1,000,000 Capital Reserve Fund monies shall be used to pay a portion thereof, with \$13,186,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments with District obligations to be issued in anticipation thereof.

Annual Public Hearing

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

7:00 p.m.

HS Library

District Budget Vote

Tuesday, May 19, 2015 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

HS Auditorium Lobby

2015-16 Property Proposed Tax Report Card

	Current	Proposed	Percent Change
Total Spending	\$24,777,768	\$25,585,252	3.26%
Total Estimated School Tax Levy	\$6,122,829	\$6,075,250	-0.78%
Public School Enrollment	1,064	1,064	0.00%
Reserve Fund Balance	\$4,762,120	\$4,227,611	
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$750,000	\$425,000	
Unreserved, Unappropriated Fund Balance	\$1,555,000	\$1,130,000	
Unreserved, Unappropriated Fund Balance as a Percent of the Total Budget	6.28%	4.42%	

Where Does the Money Go? **EXPENDITURES** 2014-15 2015-16 Change Administrative \$2,725,279 \$398,782 \$3,124,061 Provides funds for general management and support activities including Board of Education, central and financial administration, staff support, central services, and special items. Also included are instructional administration and curriculum development. \$17,292,059 \$16,959,754 Program (\$332,305) Provides funds for instructional and educational support, computer assisted instruction, guidance, health, co-curricular, and interscholastic sports programs. Provides funds for the purchase of computers, network upgrades, computer enrichment programs, and music program.

Provides funds for the operation and maintenance of the District's physical plant, including utilities. Also, includes debt service payments. Provides funds to replace maintenance equipment (\$100,000) and equipment to support custodial and maintenance (\$185,000), including a \$100,000 aidable project.

\$4,760,430

Total

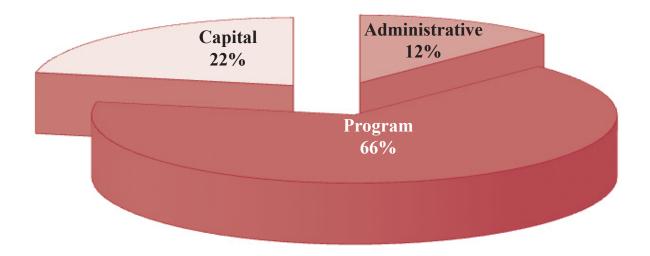
Capital

\$24,777,768 25,585,252 \$807,484

\$5,501,437

\$741,007

2015-2016 Budget by Component



Sources of Revenue

A 1090TAX PENALTIES\$2A 1310DAY SCHOOL TUITION\$6A 2230DAY SCHOOL TUITION OTHER DISTRICTS\$7A2395OTHER REVENUE - BOCES\$A 2232SUMMER SCHOOL TUITION OTHER SCHOOLS\$A 2401CHECKING ACCOUNT INTEREST\$,250 ,225 ,741 ,617 ,230 - ,667 437
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A2401.TA CHECKING ACCOUNT INTEREST \$	49
A 2410 RENT REAL PROPER INDIVI/FACIL USE \$	
	,405
	,417
A 2413 RENTAL OF REAL PROPERTY-BOCES \$	_
A 2440 RENTAL OF BUSES \$	249
	,881
	,253
A 2680 INSURANCE RECOVERIES \$	_
	,405
	,823
	,209
A 2705 GIFTS AND DONATIONS \$	186
	,056
	,899
A 2801 INTERFUND REVENUES (INDIRECT COSTS) \$	_
A 3101 STATE AID \$ 10,07	,157
	,239
	,682
A 3103 BOCES AID \$ 2,49	,885
	,580
	,505
	,163
	,550
A 3262 SOFTWARE AID \$	_
A 3289.HOM.EL.ESS OTHER AID: HOMELESS AID \$	_
	,527
	,000,
	,000,
Total \$ 25,16	
	,000
Total Budget \$ 25,58	

Meet the C

Board of Education Candidates

(Alphabetical – Write-ups printed as submitted)

Thomas Hoskins



Thomas Hoskins: for a term of three (3) years expiring 6/30/2018, to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of the term for the seat currently occupied by Robert D. Holt.

My wife, Susann, and I own a home in the Village of Sidney. We have three children: Tom (Class of '15), Alex (Class of '17),

and Matthew (Class of '19). I was born and raised in Sidney, graduated from SCS (Class of '82) and Cornell University (Class of '86). I'm a Licensed Professional Engineer and worked for nine years in Binghamton and Albany as a Civil Engineer, before moving back to Sidney. For the past 21 years, I have been employed by the NYSDOT working in Binghamton as a Regional Construction Supervisor. I strongly believe in the value of community service and have volunteered coaching with the local youth sport leagues and working with the local Scouting program. I'm currently a member of the Sidney Village Planning Board. My children are fortunate to have been able to attend a small high school that offers a myriad of opportunities both academically and athletically. If elected, I hope to be able to use both my professional and personal experience to help the Board to make decisions that will ensure these opportunities continue. I encourage all to vote.

Marisa Orezzoli



Marisa Orezzoli: for a term of two (2) years expiring 6/30/2017, to fill the vacancy created by the unexpired term of Francis (Jay) Suriano presently filled by board appointment of Daniel M. Owen. Marisa Orezzoli is a recent

honors graduate of SUNY Oneonta with a bachelor's degree in computer art. Marisa has been

the Odyssey of the Mind coordinator for the past two years and has volunteered her time coaching Odyssey teams for three years. She has organized many events for Odyssey of the Mind, as well as orchestrates their annual Theatre Night. From 2008-2010 she served as president of the Sidney Head Start parent group as well as volunteer time in the Head Start classrooms.

Marisa is originally from California and has been part of the Sidney community since 2007 and has shown great love for the town. She is a dedicated mother, wife and advocate for her children and enjoys volunteering her time at school events and being a part of the Sidney School District. She chose to run for the Board of Education because, "I would like to be the voice of future generations and be actively involved in the growth, development and achievements of the children in the community."

Nancy Parsons



Nancy Parsons: for a term of three (3) years expiring 6/30/2018, to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of the term for the seat currently occupied by Nancy K. Parsons.

I graduated from Sidney Central High School as did my husband and all four of our children. I have two grandchildren

who previously graduated from Sidney as well as three grandchildren who are currently attending school in the district. As a current member of the Board of Education I have completed all of the required fiscal and oversight training and have participated in all areas of board operation. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our administration, teaching and support staff we have improved our academic standing and have a campus we can all be proud of. We continue to offer programs to benefit students and community and I would like to be a part of this ongoing improvement process during the difficult and exciting coming years. Thank you for your past and continuing support.

Jeffrey Stefanek I



Jeffrey Stefanek I: for a term of three (3) years expiring 6/30/2018, to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of the term for the seat currently occupied by Nancy K. Parsons.

Jeffrey was born in North Bergan, New Jersey, at the age of 13 he moved to Johnson City, NY. In 2008, Jeffrey and his wife

Nicole and their seven children moved to Sidney.

After moving to Sidney, Jeffrey enrolled his seven children in the Sidney School District. Jeffrey has worked as a Field and Dist. Capt. in the Security Field. He also worked being a Bail Enforcement Agent and also owned a limousine business.

At this time Jeffrey is a Ind. Pro Wrestler Manager

andidates

(Xcite Wrestling) and is the owner of The Everything Store on Main Street in Sidney. On his spare time he is a Volunteer Fire Fighter for Sidney Fire Dept. His wife Nicole is also on the Sidney Fire Dept. Auxillary.

Jeffrey is very passionate about his community, schooling and helping to improve the town of Sidney.

Kjersti VanSlyke-Briggs



Kjersti VanSlyke-Briggs: for a term of one (1) year expiring 6/30/2016 to fill the vacancy created by the unexpired term of Gary J. Schoonover, presently filled by board appointment of Terri L. Theobald.

Kjersti VanSlyke-Briggs began her professional career as a high school English teacher. Currently,

she is a professor in Secondary Education and Educational Technology and teaches both the English education and literacy courses. She has served on a number of other boards both locally and state-wide including the Bugbee Children's Center, The Catskill Regional Teacher Center and the New York State English Council (NYSEC). She is a past president of NYSEC. She is also a co-founder of Oneonta Area for Public Education (OAPE). Kjersti has coached Odyssey of the Mind here in Sidney and has a daughter in the third grade. Last year, she was awarded two grants to implement a technology program totaling over \$50,000 in select classrooms in both Morris and Laurens School districts.

She is current on state educational legislation, both national and international trends in education and advocates for local governance of schools.



Library Trustee Candidates

(Alphabetical – Write-ups printed as submitted)

Donna Dean

Donna Dean: for a term of five (5) years ending 6/30/2020, caused by the expiration of the term of Kenneth Howard.

Donna has been a resident in the Town of Masonville for 20 years and has lived within the Sidney Central School District for 29 years. She is currently the Secretary for the Assistant

Superintendent for Management Services with the Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego BOCES.

Donna is actively involved in the community by being a part of several committees and boards. Over the years she has held positions with the Tri Town Nursery School Board, Masonville Ladies Auxiliary, Sidney Youth Football Program, Sidney Youth Wrestling Program, and Sidney Gridiron Club. She is also a merit badge counselor for Boy Scout Troop 99 in Sidney.

Donna and her husband Corey are proud parents to Austin-18, Wade-15 and Danielle-3. She enjoys spending time with her family and friends and loves watching her children compete in sporting events.

Sue Ruestow



Susan Ruestow: for a term of five (5) years ending 6/30/2020, caused by the expiration of the term of Susan Ruestow.

I have served as a trustee on the Library Board for the past three years filling the unexpired term of David Pysnik. It has been a wonderful learning experience for me and also very rewarding

community service work.

I have resided in Sidney Center since 1973. In 2002, I retired from 25 years of teaching music in several public schools in Delaware County, starting in Jefferson, Sidney Center and Masonville, and finishing the last 21 years in Franklin. I am currently teaching private piano lessons to both children and adults, regularly substitute as a church organist and frequently accompany students for various solo work. Some of my special interests are gardening, crafts, quilting and reading. I feel that our Sidney Library and the satellite branches are one of the community's finest assets and would welcome the opportunity to serve on the Board of Trustees once again.

Sidney Memorial Public Library Budget

	Current 2014-15	Proposed 2015-16	Change
RECEIPTS			
LOCAL LIBRARY SERVICES AID	5,000	5,000	0
GIFTS AND ENDOWMENTS	4,200	4,200	0
INTEREST AND INVESTMENT EARNINGS	1,800	1,800	0
TRUST FUND EARNINGS	4,000	4,000	0
LIBRARY FINES	8,400	7,900	(500)
COPIER INCOME	7,600	7,600	0
TOTAL – ALL RECEIPTS	31,000	30,500	(500)
EXPENDITURES			
PERSONNEL – SALARIES			
LIBRARY STAFF	317,427	318,762	1,335
PERSONNEL – BENEFITS			
STATE RETIREMENT	39,980	37,212	(2,768)
SOCIAL SECURITY	19,680	19,168	(512)
MEDICARE	4,603	4,483	(120)
WORKER'S COMPENSATION	2,500	3,000	500
DISABILITY INSURANCE	1,500	1,200	(300)
HEALTH INSURANCE	10,000	13,000	3,000
HEALTH PROMOTION	100	50	(50)
TOTAL – PERSONNEL	395,790	396,875	1,085
LIBRARY MATERIALS			
BOOKS, INFORMATION NETWORK	49,750	48,750	(1,000)
PERIODICALS	4,300	3,800	(500)
SERIALS	2,500	2,500	0
RECORDINGS	8,000	8,000	0
TOTAL – LIBRARY MATERIALS	64,550	63,050	(1,500)
EQUIPMENT			
COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	4,000	3,000	(1,000)
OTHER EQUIPMENT	2,000	2,000	0
TOTAL – EQUIPMENT	6,000	5,000	(1,000)
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF BUILDINGS			
FUEL AND UTILITIES	41,500	40,500	(1,000)
CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES	3,500	6,000	2,500
MAINTENANCE EXPENSES	10,000	14,000	4,000
REPAIRS TO BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT	3,000	6,000	3,000
RENTAL OF BRANCH LIBRARIES	4,800	4,800	0
			(1.500)
INSURANCE	18,000	16,500	(1,500)

Continued on next page

Sidney Memorial Public Library Budget

OFFICE AND LIBRARY SUPPLIES	4,800	4,700	(100
COPIER SUPPLIES	1,900	1,500	(400)
TELEPHONE	1,000	1,300	300
POSTAGE	900	900	(
PUBLICITY AND PRINTING	300	400	100
PROGRAMMING	2,500	2,100	(400)
TRAVEL	2,500	1,900	(600)
CONTINUING EDUCATION	2,500	2,500	С
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	12,000	11,000	(1,000)
PROFESSIONAL DUES	400	400	C
LEASES OF EQUIPMENT	10,000	10,000	C
CIRCULATION SYSTEM	20,000	22,000	2,000
TOTAL – MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	58,800	58,700	(100)
GRAND TOTAL EXPENDITURES	605,940	611,425	5,485
EXPENDITURES	605,940	611,425	5,485
RECEIPTS – REGULAR	31,000	30,500	(500)
FROM LIBRARY RESERVE-BACK TO VOTERS	65,000	65,000	С
GRAND TOTAL RECEIPTS	96,000	95,500	(500)
TAX LEVY TO BE RAISED	509,940	515,925	5,985

Proposed Capital Project

In addition to voting on the proposed 2015-16 budget and electing members to the Board of Education, community members will also be asked to vote on a proposed capital project on Tuesday, May 19, 2015.

Some of the items in the capital project will address needs identified and prioritized in its required NYS Education Department Building Condition Survey developed by the district in 2010. The items identified in these documents and others identified by the district were prioritized and based on necessity and make up the work proposed in this capital project. State aid will cover most of the project cost, along with a proposed \$1,000,000 one-time payment from the district's capital reserve fund and \$673,623 of EXCEL funding.

The \$14.1 million proposed project will include several infrastructure projects that need to be addressed at district facilities. The wide-ranging project includes upgrades to roofs at all facilities, updates to the kindergarten classroom area, security upgrades, and kitchen renovations at the high school. Following is a list that highlights some of the additional work that is being done at each of our facilities:

Elementary School

- Parking lot pavement replacement and sidewalk replacement/restoration
- Lighting replacement
- Power distribution upgrades
- Clock system replacement
- Additional security cameras
- HVAC system replacement
- Toilet room renovations at select locations
- Library area renovation/conversion into computer technology spaces

Junior High School

Parking lot pavement replacement and sidewalk replacement/restoration

Continued next page

Proposed Capital Project Continued ...

- Tennis court resurfacing
- Window replacement
- Repoint brick in select locations
- Classroom asbestos vinyl tile replacement
- Cabinetry replacement in select locations.
- Locker room renovation
- Clinic renovation
- Power distribution upgrades
- Lighting replacement
- Clock system replacement
- Gymnasium unit ventilator replacement
- Building HVAC control upgrades

High School

- Soffit replacement at select locations
- Window replacement
- Classroom asbestos vinyl tile replacement
- Ceiling replacement
- Power distribution upgrades
- Additional security cameras
- Replace classroom unit ventilators in select locations
- Boiler replacement
- Building HVAC control upgrades
- Water distribution piping replacement
- Create new main entrance
- Bus lift replacement

Q: Why is this project necessary?

A: The district, along with project architects and engineers, has worked to define a costeffective capital project that addresses immediate infrastructure, and health and safety concerns. All items in this project are consistent with the normal capital construction maintenance for buildings of this age.

Q: Can this project be done under regular maintenance?

A: No. Due to the cost associated with the required construction, the district can only undertake this type of work with the help of building aid from the State Education Department. For the proposed project, the state aid will be 86.6% of eligible capital construction. The only way to receive building aid is to have a capital construction project approved. If the district had to address these items utilizing their maintenance funds, we would have to pay the full cost of construction.

Understanding the Costs

- The total project cost is \$14,186,000.
- State building aid will fund 86.6% of eligible items.
- Capital reserve funds and EXCEL funding will cover \$1,673,623 of the project.
- The local cost is \$39,274 annually. On a \$100,000 home the cost on the annual tax bill will be \$2.15.
- The balance of the project will be funded through the local share over 15 years beginning in the 2017-18 school year.
- By law, the district cannot exceed this amount once
 - it has been approved by voters.





Sidney Central School District

Sample Absentee Ballot

2015 - 2016 Annual Budget Vote and Board Election Ballot

- Please read all selections completely
- Only select one choice per answer

Question #1 (Check one)

Proposition 1

Shall the Board of Education of the Sidney Central School District be authorized to expend sums set forth in the 2015-2016 school year proposed budget in the amount of \$25,585,252?

 \square No

Question #2 (Check one)

Proposition 2

That the Sidney Memorial Public Library proposed budget for the 2015-2016 fiscal year in the amount of \$611,425 be adopted.

Yes

No

Question #3 (Check one)

Proposition 3

To authorize the Sidney Central School District to purchase buses, at a maximum estimated cost not to exceed \$400,000 and that so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments with District obligations (including the use of lease purchase) to be issued in anticipation thereof."

□ Yes

No

Question #4 (Check one)

Proposition 4

To authorize the Sidney Central School District to implement a school district improvement program consisting of renovations to buildings, including site work, as well as original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, and other improvements and costs incidental thereto, at a maximum estimated cost of \$14,186,000 and that \$1,000,000 Capital Reserve Fund monies shall be used to pay a portion thereof, with \$13,186,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments with District obligations to be issued in anticipation thereof."

YesNo

Question #5 (Check one)

Please select one candidate for the one (1) year term caused by the vacancy created by the unexpired term of Gary J. Schoonover, presently filled by the board appointment of Terri L. Theobald.

□ Kjersti VanSlyke-Briggs

□ Write In (____

Question #6 (Check one)

Please select one candidate for the two (2) year term caused by the vacancy created by the unexpired term of Francis (Jay) Suriano, presently filled by board appointment of Daniel M. Owen.

Marisa Orezzoli

Write In ()

Question #7 (Check one)

Please select one candidate for the term of three (3) years to fill the Board of Education vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of Nancy K. Parsons.

- □ Nancy Parsons
- □ Jeffrey Stefanek
- Write In (

Question #8 (Check one)

Please select one candidate for the term of three (3) years to fill the Board of Education vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of Robert D. Holt.

- Thomas Hoskins
- Write In (____

Question #9 (Check one)

Please select one candidate for the five (5) year term caused by the expiration of the Library seat held by Kenneth Howard.

Donna Dean

Write In (_____

Question #10 (Check one)

Please select one candidate for the five (5) year term caused by the expiration of the Library seat held by Susan Ruestow.

Susan Ruestow

□ Write In (_

THIS IS ONLY A SAMPLE.

Sidney Central School District 95 West Main Street Sidney, New York 13838 (607) 563-2135

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Nancy Parsons **President** Kerri Green **Vice-President** Kimberly Ayres Robert Holt Daniel Owen Tammy Schunk Terri Theobald

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

William H. Christensen, Ed. D Superintendent Corey A. Green Asst. Superintendent for Student Accountability & Support Operations

DISTRICT CLERK

Connie Umbra

NEWSLETTER EDITOR Sheri Kinsella Current Resident or

ECRWSS POSTAL CUSTOMER

Sidney Central School District Budget 2015 - 2016

Qualifications of Voters

Pursuant to Section 2012 of the Education Law, a person qualified to vote in the annual school district election must be:

- Eighteen years of age;
- A citizen of the United States;
- A resident within the District for a period of 30 days prior to the election.

You do not have to be a registered voter or own property in order to vote. The District may require proof of residency, such as a driver's license or a voter registration card, prior to signing the poll list.

Absentee Ballot Information

Absentee ballot applications are available to qualifying Sidney Central School District residents from the District Clerk, located in the District Office at the High School, during regular business hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). All applications must be picked up no later than May 12, 2015, if the ballot is to be mailed by the voter, or by May 18, 2015, if the ballot is to be delivered personally.

All completed absentee ballots must be submitted to the District Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m., May 19, 2015.

YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

Non-Profit Organization U.S. POSTAGE PAID Sidney, New York 13838 Permit No. 16