



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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WPCNA Hosts School Budget Forum

The White Plains Council of Neighborhood Associations will host a community input session on the School Budget at its February meeting. White Plains Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Christopher Clouet, Assistant Superintendent for Business, Fred Seiler, and members of the School Board will be on hand to take part in the dialog.

School Superintendents Clouet and Seiler and School Board members will attend the February meeting of the White Plains Council of Neighborhood Associations (WPCNA) to discuss the School Budget process and seek community input. The meeting will be held at Education House at 5 Homeside Lane in White Plains, NY at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, February 9, 2010. Admission is free and the public is invited to attend and participate.

Substantial reductions in state aid and the Star exemption coupled with increases in salaries and benefits will make this year's budget even more difficult than last. School Board President Donna McLaughlin sums up the predicament this way: "This adds up to a potential increase of almost \$10 million in expenditures for next year, without considering tax certioraris. It is clear that we need to consider all options in order to hold this budget to an acceptable level."

The School Budget Forum will include presentations reviewing the district's finances, the state's and city's financial constraints, and other issues relating to development of the budget. White Plains residents are invited to comment and discuss spending efficiencies, budget priorities and ways to increase revenue.

Interest in the School Budget is stronger than ever, so come early to get a good seat. The Forum will get underway promptly at 7:30 pm to allow plenty of time for audience participation.

The WPCNA, which is an apolitical non-governmental organization, provides a citywide forum on education, safety, health, government, the environment, and open space. Its members are the autonomous neighborhood associations dedicated to preserving and improving the quality of life in White Plains.

To learn more about the WPCNA, please visit: <http://www.wpcna.org/>. For information on the School Budget, please visit the District website: www.whiteplainspublicschools.org

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