



Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen

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Constance D. Evelyn, Superintendent of Schools

From Constance Evelyn, Valley Stream Union Free School District Thirteen

The Valley Stream Union Free School District Thirteen's budget development process has always been carried out with total transparency, community input, and participation. Operating costs are clearly articulated at numerous budget workshop and Board of Education meetings, with associated revenue streams, including state aid, program fees and the proposed property tax levy. Additionally, since the inception of the state's tax cap, the district's annual budgets have been at or below the level established for the district each year.

The district's commitment to the Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen community is to provide our children with the highest quality educational experience. Any allegations that tax money has been erroneously over-collected by the district are simply false and have the potential to cause great damage to the longstanding trusting relationship between our district and the community. Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen does not receive any revenue from the Green Acres Mall PILOT and has been working diligently to provide accurate information about this issue and advocates tax relief for our community members. The Board of Education has previously identified legislative issues that would require greater transparency from Industrial Development Agencies and necessitate the public be informed of the financial impact of PILOTS before they are granted. The district encourages our legislators to support the reforms that have previously been identified by the Board of Education.

The Board of Education and administration will continue to carry out our fiduciary financial responsibilities with the utmost care and professionalism, guided by a commitment to ensure a bright future for our students.