

The 2018-19 Proposed Budget Budget, Board of Education Election, and Propositions

BUDGET

The budget proposition would authorize the appropriation of \$78,330,553 to meet estimated school district expenditures for the 2018-19 school year. This represents an increase of 2.95% compared to the 2017-18 Adopted Budget. Adoption of this budget would result in an anticipated tax levy increase of 2.36%, which is within the limits of the property tax cap as calculated in accordance with Chapter 97 of the Laws of New York and qualifying homes will be eligible for state's Property Tax Relief Rebate.

BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION

Voters will elect two members to the Board of Education. There are four candidates, whose names will appear on the ballot in the following order: Martha Sciremammano, Mark Kokanovich, Cindy Sobieraj, and Christina Lee. Voters may also write in names.

CAPITAL RESERVE PROPOSITIONS

Voters will be asked to authorize the withdrawal of funds from voter-approved capital reserve accounts to pay for capital expenditures for which the fund was specifically established:

Proposition Name	Current Balance	Request to Withdraw	Purpose
Proposition #1 Capital Reserve Fund (General) Withdrawal	\$8,595,130	\$1,500,000	Construction of alterations, renovations and improvements to each of the District's existing school buildings and facilities and reduce debt obligation related to Brighton Facilities Improvement Plan approved in May 2017.
Proposition #2 Capital Reserve Fund (Technology) Withdrawal	\$1,588,605	\$500,000	Transfer to General Fund to expend for computer-related equipment and technology-related infrastructure.
Proposition #3 Capital Reserve Fund (Bus Purchase) Withdrawal	\$200,000	\$125,000	Transfer to the General Fund for the acquisition of three (3) passenger vans seating 10 to 14 passengers.

Approval of Propositions #1, #2, and #3 would not increase the proposed tax levy or the resulting tax rate.

PROPOSITION #4: STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

Voters will be asked to establish the walking distances from home-to-school as follows: Kindergarten, first, and second grades: 1/8 mile; third, fourth, and fifth grades: 1/4 mile; and, grades 6-12: 3/4 mile for the 2018-19 school year and thereafter.

Approval of Proposition #4 would not increase the proposed budget, tax levy or the resulting tax rate.



**TIME to
VOTE!**  **May 15, 2018**

7 a.m. - 9 p.m. • Brighton High School, Lower Level • 1150 Winton Road South

2018-19 Key Budget Guidelines

- Support educational programs and services vital to successful implementation of the District mission, vision, and priorities as outlined in the Brighton Blueprint accepted by the Board of Education at its meeting on August 15, 2017:
Safety, security, and wellness; Rigorous coursework for all students; Creativity and innovation; Instructional technology; and, Diversity and equity
- Be clear and focused on well-planned resource allocations to fund programs that prepare students with the skills and attributes that will help them be successful learners, leaders, and contributors ready for college and careers.

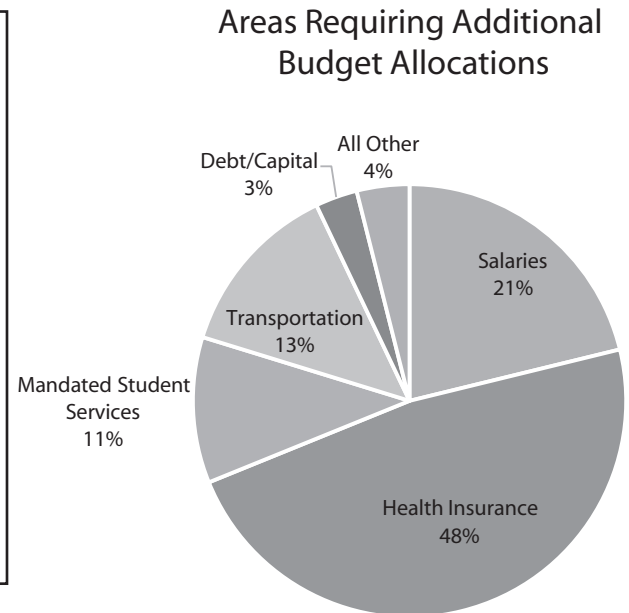
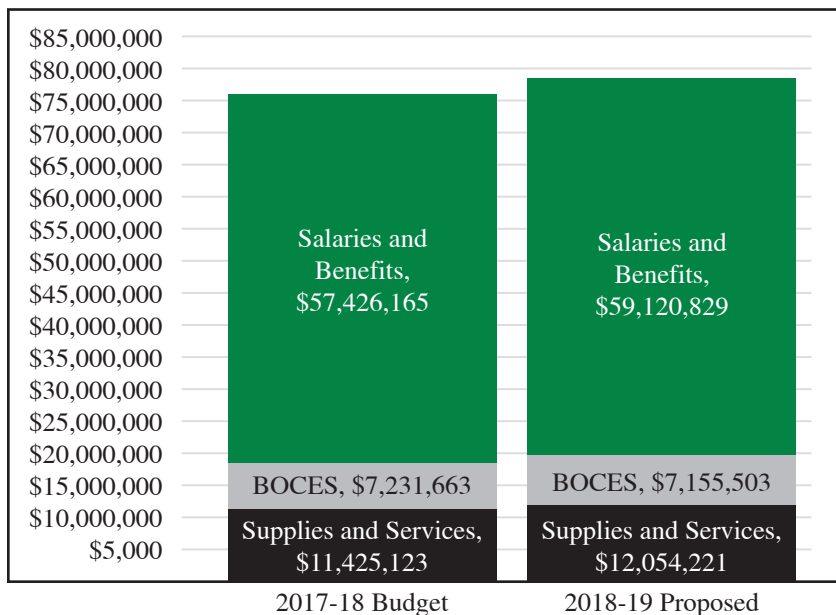
Proposed Budget Summary

	2018-19 Budget	% Change
A) Total Preliminary Budget Amount	\$78,330,553	2.95%
B) State Aid	\$16,264,043	5.85%
C) Total Revenues Other Than Real Property Taxes and State Sources	\$6,335,211	2.30%
D) Amount of Fund Balance Used to Offset Levy of Tax	\$3,456,000	0.00%
E) Non-Property Tax Revenues (B+C+D)	\$26,055,254	3.04%
F) Total Real Property Tax Levy	\$52,275,299	2.36%*

* The resulting increase in the real property tax levy is within the Property Tax Levy Limit as calculated in accordance with Chapter 97 of the Laws of New York.

Proposed Spending Summary

Given that public education is a professional service that requires a skilled and talented workforce, salaries and benefits represent 76% of the Proposed Budget. Total spending in this area is projected to increase 3%, with the allocation to total salaries limited to an increase of 1.3%.



The proposed spending plan maintains programs and reflects the Board of Education's priorities reflected in the Blueprint. However, every budget requires difficult decisions to balance revenues and expenditures. Below is a listing of measures taken to control growth in spending:

- Freeze employee hiring with the exception of staffing related to health, safety, and security.
- Scale staffing allocations based on enrollment while maintaining target class size targets and elective offerings.
- Reduce overtime allocations.
- Increase reliance on federal grants to reduce pressure on the General Fund.
- Slow the pace of funding for full-day kindergarten, but still plan to begin offering full-day kindergarten in the 2021-22 school year.
- Begin implementing caps on certain programs, such as occupational education, co-curricular activities, and extra-curricular activities.
- Limit equipment allocations to those required to maintain current program, or required for health and safety reasons.

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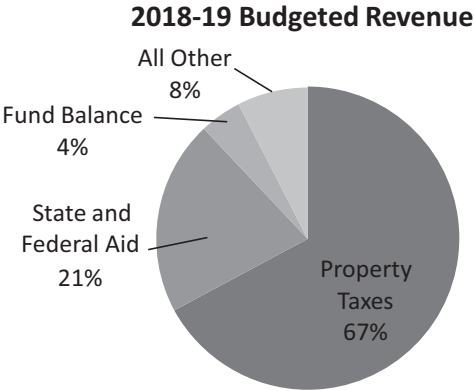
Proposed Spending Summary Continued

Additional allocations totaling \$100,000 have been made to increase nursing and security staff. This is in response to emerging student needs and the District’s review of safety plans.

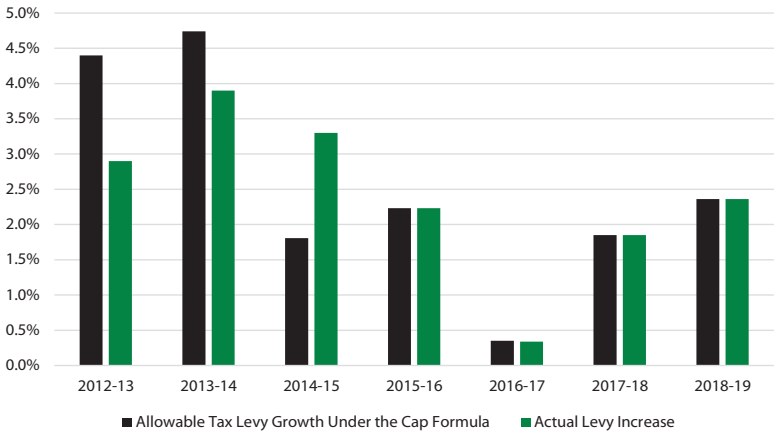
The District participates in the Rochester Area Health Savings Plan consortium with 18 other public school districts in Monroe County. Compared to open health care markets, participation in this consortium has saved the District more than \$3 million. Starting in January 2018, the plan restructured to be self-insured. This change is projected to save the consortium \$6 million per year in taxes and administrative fees. Despite this, the District projects health care costs to increase 8% in the upcoming year due to medical inflation and an overall increase in the participation in the District plan – accounting for both active employees and retirees.

Proposed Revenue Summary

Last year, the Brighton community made great progress working with our state legislators to correct an injustice in the state’s Foundation Aid formula. The collective efforts generated \$1.1 million in new revenue that has been added to the District’s base aid. With the property tax cap at 1.85% last year, this infusion of aid was necessary to balance the 2017-18 Budget. This year, the inflation adjustment to that base aid is projected to be \$370,000, which funds a 0.4% increase in spending. Consequently, the District continues to rely on the property tax levy to balance the budget. For 2018-19, that allowable tax levy limit is 2.36%. To the right and below are the sources of revenue and the District’s recent tax history compared to the tax cap:



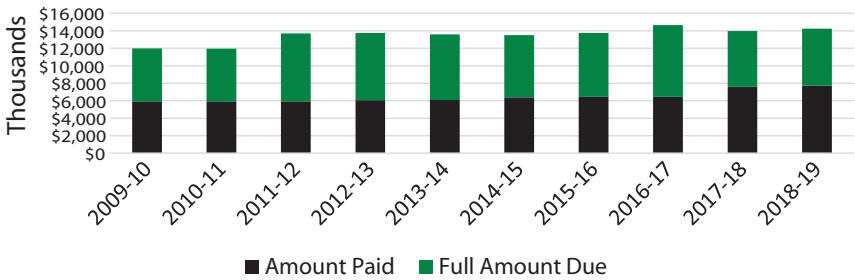
With no desire to sacrifice the property tax relief rebate due to eligible members of our community, it was a priority for the Board of Education to stay within the limits of the property tax cap for the fourth year in a row. Furthermore, the District’s wants to be fully transparent that with the implementation of full-day kindergarten and future debt service from the 2017 Facilities Improvement Plan, the District may need to exceed the tax cap in at least one of the next three years.



State Aid Advocacy and the Impact of Foundation Aid

Last year, the Brighton Central School District and Fight for Brighton, a strong constituent base, continued to advocate for a remedy in the Foundation Aid formula that uniquely disadvantaged the District. With the full support of Assembly Majority Leader Morelle and Senator Robach, District leaders, and the Fight for Brighton Executive Council, Brighton received a Foundation Aid increase totaling \$1.1 million. Below is a summary of Foundation Aid trends and the progress made over the last two years to restore Foundation Aid and provide a more equitable allocation to Brighton:

Foundation Aid History



State Aid represents 20% of total revenues. Of that amount, 51% is reimbursable aid based on prior year expenses. These include transportation expenses, building aid, BOCES aid, and instructional materials and hardware, and certain high cost student services. Reimbursable aids only increase because the District is spending more in that area. Therefore, increases in these aids do not provide any relief to the tax levy. Foundation Aid is the only unrestricted state aid that can provide property tax relief and the Brighton Central School District is still due more than \$6 million per the State’s formula.

School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2017-18 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2018-19 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2018- 2019 School Year *										
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 76,082,951	\$78,330,553	\$77,125,161										
Increase/Decrease for the 2018-19 School Year		\$2,247,602	\$1,042,210										
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		2.95 %	1.37%										
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.13%											
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$51,069,907	\$52,275,299											
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$0	\$0											
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$0	\$0											
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$0	\$0											
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$51,069,907	\$52,275,299											
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$0	\$0											
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$51,069,908	\$52,275,299											
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$51,069,907	\$52,275,299											
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$1	\$0											
Administrative Component	\$7,912,844	\$8,016,080	\$7,642,724										
Program Component	\$61,225,142	\$63,172,433	\$62,450,302										
Capital Component	\$6,944,965	\$7,142,040	\$7,032,135										
<p>* The contingency budget is calculated under NYS Education Law, section 2023 and in accordance with Chapter 97 of the Laws of New York (Property Tax Cap). Actual line item appropriations under a contingent budget will be determined by the Board of Education.</p>													
<div><div>** Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount. No proposition proposed increases, or decreases the proposed property tax levy or school tax levy limit.</div><table><tr><th>Description</th><th>Amount</th></tr><tr><td>Proposition #1 – Capital Reserve Fund Withdrawal</td><td>\$1,500,000</td></tr><tr><td>Proposition #2 – Technology Reserve Fund Withdrawal</td><td>\$500,000</td></tr><tr><td>Proposition #3 – Bus Purchase Reserve Fund Withdrawal</td><td>\$125,000</td></tr><tr><td>Proposition #4 – Transportation Services – School Walk Zone</td><td>\$0</td></tr></table></div>				Description	Amount	Proposition #1 – Capital Reserve Fund Withdrawal	\$1,500,000	Proposition #2 – Technology Reserve Fund Withdrawal	\$500,000	Proposition #3 – Bus Purchase Reserve Fund Withdrawal	\$125,000	Proposition #4 – Transportation Services – School Walk Zone	\$0
Description	Amount												
Proposition #1 – Capital Reserve Fund Withdrawal	\$1,500,000												
Proposition #2 – Technology Reserve Fund Withdrawal	\$500,000												
Proposition #3 – Bus Purchase Reserve Fund Withdrawal	\$125,000												
Proposition #4 – Transportation Services – School Walk Zone	\$0												
			Under the Budget Proposed for the 2018-19 School Year										
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law			Town of Brighton \$787 Town of Pittsford \$778										

Three-Part Budget Information

Proposed Budget 2018-19

Program Component

\$63,172,433 or 80.65% of budget

The program component represents the largest portion of expenditures. This component maintains all current programs and services and supports the District's mission and vision. This component provides funding for instruction and educational support services for all students. Transportation, health, library, co-curricular activities, and athletics are also included in this component.

Function or Account	2017-18	2018-19	Increase/Decrease
Legal Services	\$86,738	\$83,439	-3.80%
Instruction	38,971,297	39,571,554	1.54%
Other Distr. Transportation	456,767	418,772	-8.32%
Contract Transportation	3,492,051	3,862,196	10.60%
Community Services	2,000	2,000	0.00%
Employee Benefits	18,071,289	19,079,472	5.58%
Interfund Transfers	145,000	155,000	6.90%
TOTAL	\$61,225,141	\$63,172,433	5.51%

Capital Component

\$7,142,040 or 9.12% of budget

The Capital Component includes costs associated with the operation and maintenance of the District facilities, including utilities, building and equipment repairs, and grounds maintenance. Funds are also included for principal and interest payments on capital projects.

Function or Account	2017-18	2018-19	Increase/Decrease
Operation of Plant	\$2,937,758	\$3,051,626	3.88%
Maintenance of Plant	1,126,651	1,051,141	-6.70%
Employee Benefits	1,311,094	1,399,273	6.73%
Debt Service	1,069,462	1,140,000	6.60%
Transfer to Capital Fund	500,000	500,000	0.00%
TOTAL	\$6,944,965	\$7,142,040	2.84%

Administrative Component

\$8,016,080 or 10.23% of budget

The Administrative component provides for the general support and management of the school buildings and the District.

Function or Account	2017-18	2018-19	Increase/Decrease
Board of Education	\$81,750	\$68,502	-16.21%
Central Administration	271,676	277,638	2.19%
Finance	1,103,420	1,035,331	-6.17%
Legal Services	75,000	75,000	0.00%
Personnel	178,600	198,711	11.26%
Records Management	28,000	30,323	8.30%
Public Information	87,242	112,557	29.02%
Operation of Plant	95,000	45,000	-52.63%
Other Central Services	458,236	468,275	2.19%
Other Special Items	976,232	988,018	1.21%
Curriculum Development and Supervision	266,826	266,566	-0.10%
Supervision Reg. School	1,947,431	1,978,502	1.60%
Research and Evaluation	345,146	348,342	0.93%
Employee Benefits	1,998,285	2,123,315	6.26%
TOTAL	\$7,912,844	\$8,016,080	1.30%

TOTAL			
THREE-PART BUDGET	\$76,082,951	\$78,330,553	2.95%

Withdrawal from Capital Project Reserves

The voters are being asked to consider authorizing the District to withdraw from three of its capital reserve funds as follows:

Proposition #1 – Capital Reserve (General) – \$1,500,000: The scope of work proposed includes 1) district-wide enhancements to building security. The specific project scope will be developed in collaboration with the Brighton Police and Fire departments as well as the District Safety Committee. 2) Interior and exterior hardware upgrades. 3) Interior building improvements to the Brookside school. 4) Additional down payment to reduce debt related to the 2017 Brighton Facilities Improvement Plan. This helps to ensure that the District honors the estimated tax impact presented to the community at the time of the project vote. 5) Re-authorization of the chiller replacement at Twelve Corners Middle School.

Proposition #2 Capital Reserve (Technology) – \$500,000: Funds withdrawn from the Technology Reserve allow for the expansion of the 1:1 device-to-student ratio at the secondary level and 2:1 ratio at the elementary level. It also allows the District to maintain a consistent repair and replacement plan for instructional hardware for both students and faculty while continuing to invest in the infrastructure district-wide.

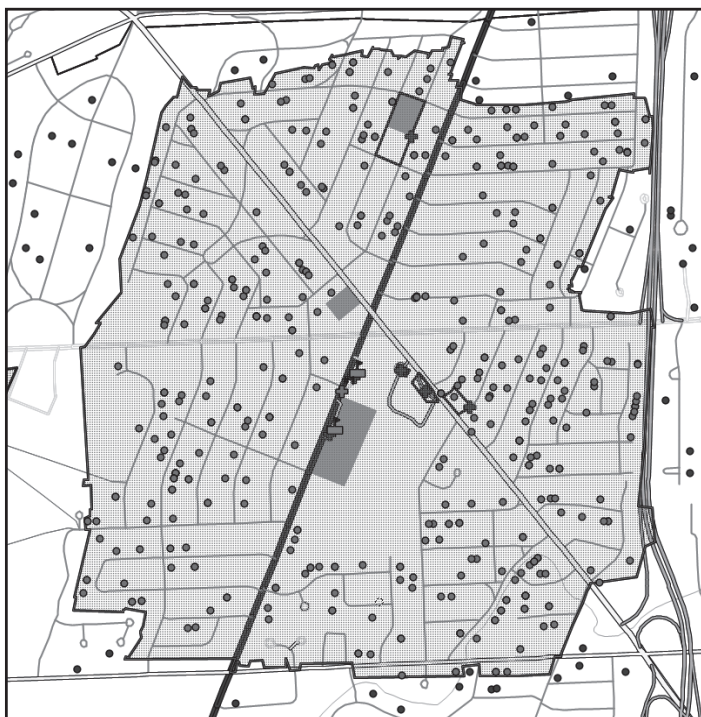
Proposition #3 Capital Reserve (Bus Purchase) – \$125,000: Allows for the purchase of 3 passenger vans. Funds in this reserve account were set aside to help reduce the reliance on contract transportation. Expansion of district-owned vehicles that certificated teachers can operate for co-curricular trips, athletic trips, and student internships will save dollars and increase access.

Approval of Propositions #1, #2, and #3 would not increase the proposed tax levy or the resulting tax rate.



Student Transportation

Proposition #4: Any change to home-to-school walk distances requires voter approval. The community is being asked to reduce the walk zone at Council Rock Primary School from 3/4 mile to 1/8 mile. This change more accurately reflects the service that is currently being provided to our youngest students in kindergarten, first, and second grade. In addition, the proposition increases the home-to-school walk distances for sixth graders. Currently sixth graders walk up to 1/4 mile, while seventh and eighth graders as well as all high school students on the same routes are required to walk up to 3/4 mile. This proposition would standardize the walk zone thereby creating more efficiency in the combined BHS/TCMS bus routes. Below is the current 7-12 walk zone:



This proposition only has the opportunity to reduce costs and will not increase the tax levy or tax rate.

21st Century Technology and Learning Environments

Brighton is completing the fourth year of its 21st Century Classroom Initiative. In 2018-19, we will expand the 2:1 iPad initiative to more classrooms at French Road and Council Rock. Students in grades five through seven will continue to be supported at a 2:1 ratio to support classroom instruction. Over 2,000 students will have access to tablets and laptops on a 1:1 or 2:1 ratio with students in grades eight through 10 having their own devices. Students in 11th and 12th grade will continue to access digital tools via computer labs and the library media center at Brighton High School. The District's vision is that all students will have real time access to technology tools which will enhance learning and increase productivity. The District is committed to devoting professional development time to support teachers as they integrate the use of digital learning tools into instruction.

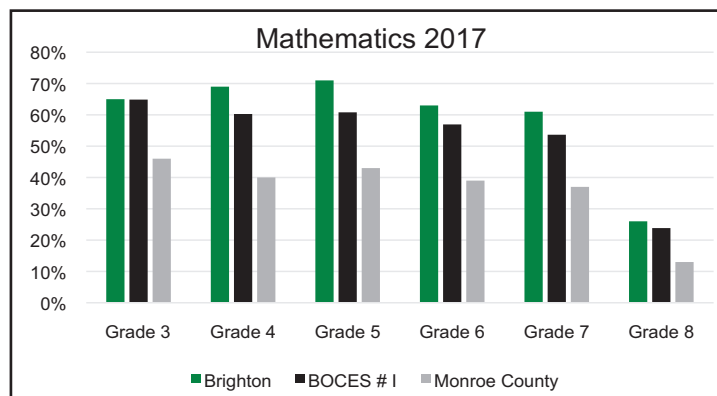
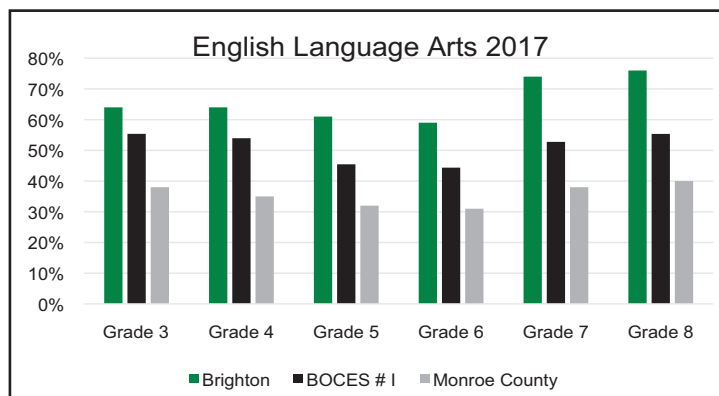
The District did a pilot with 21st Century learning spaces in 13 classrooms during the 2017-18 school year. These new classrooms include flexible seating and moveable furniture to make the rooms welcoming while providing the teachers and students flexibility to create, design, and learn. Elements of these classrooms include standing desks, inflated ball seating, and tables equipped with power sources that are easily rearranged for different classroom activities. The idea is to provide students with a space where they can collaborate, think critically, solve problems, and communicate effectively. By providing a purposeful classroom space, collaboration, active participation, and motivation will increase. This project will expand by 10 classrooms for the 2018-19 school year.

New Course Combining Art and Technology

Brighton High School will offer a new class in the fall called Understanding Design. The class is a key part of 21st century art and technology and the global community – a concept our District recognizes as a core value of its Brighton Blueprint vision. The course encourages collaboration across the departments of technology and art to build a foundation for understanding design expression through narrative and 2D and 3D projects. Understanding Design will be taught with an innovative and flexible approach that encourages exploration of materials, media, and methodologies across key subject areas including social design, information design, typographic media, functional design, and communication environments. It will prepare students to be savvy visual problem-solvers who use a wide variety of concepts and media to inform, direct, promote, entertain, and engage diverse audiences. It will integrate art and design principles, methods, concepts, images, words, and ideas. Because there are interesting opportunities for cross-curricular content instruction in the media arts, this collaboration between the art and technology departments will enrich the course.

Educational Quality

★ **Percentage meeting or exceeding the NYS Standards compared to Schools in Monroe #1 BOCES and Monroe County***



2017	Algebra I		
	# tested	65+	85+
Brighton	303	96%	42%
BOCES #1	3880	96%	45%
Monroe County	11,152	74%	22%

2017	11th Grade ELA Regents		
	# tested	65+	85+
Brighton	269	95%	79%
BOCES #1	3,170	97%	79%
Monroe County	8,990	81%	48%

* The district data included herein is verified in the New York State repository.

★ Advanced Placement Results

Advanced Placement courses are offered in Art History, Biology, Calculus (AB and BC), Chemistry, Computer Science (A and Principles), English Language, English Literature, Environmental Science, European History, French, German, Music Theory, Physics (1, 2, and C), Psychology, Spanish, Statistics, Studio Art, U.S. Government, U.S. History, and World History. Exams are graded on scores of 1 to 5; grades of 3 and above are generally accepted for college credit.

	# Students	# Exams Written	% Exams Receiving Score of 3 or better
2013	420	992	87%
2014	431	1,024	89%
2015	446	1,093	88%
2016	439	1,076	85%
2017	418	975	90%

***69% of students graduate having taken at least one AP class**

★ National Merit Scholarship Program

The National Merit Scholarship Program is an academic competition for recognition and scholarships. To qualify students must take the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Each year, more than a million students nationwide qualify for consideration based on an index score that includes critical reading, mathematics, and writing skills scores. Brighton High School's Class of 2018 with 275 students has 7 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists and 6 National Merit Scholarship Commended Students. In addition, several Brighton students are selected each year to receive special scholarships funded through various corporations through the National Merit Scholarship Corporation Program.

★ SAT

The SAT is a standardized test used by many colleges during the college admission process. In 2016, The College Board changed the format of the SAT exam to consolidate reading and writing into one section. The SAT Reasoning Test assesses students' knowledge in the areas of reading and writing and math. Scores range from 200 to 800 on each section. Brighton students continually score above the New York State and national averages.

Reading

	Brighton	NYS	National
2013	588	485	496
2014	590	488	497
2015	587	489	495
2016	599	489	494
2017*	633	527	533

Math

	Brighton	NYS	National
2013	598	501	514
2014	601	502	513
2015	598	502	511
2016	601	501	508
2017	621	531	527

**Section changed to Evidence-based Reading and Writing*

★ ACT

The ACT assesses high school students' educational development and their ability to complete college-level work. The multiple-choice tests cover four skill areas: English, mathematics, reading, and science. The highest possible score on the test is 36. Brighton students continue to score above the state and national averages. In 2017, the national composite score was 21.0 and the NYS composite was 24.2.

Composite Scores

Class	Brighton	NYS	National
2013	27.3	23.4	20.9
2014	27.9	23.4	21.0
2015	27.1	23.7	21.0
2016	27.9	23.9	20.8
2017	27.5	24.2	21.0

★ Percent of Students Graduating with Regents Diplomas and Regents Diplomas with Advanced Distinction

In addition to the Regents Diploma graduation requirements, to receive a Diploma with Advanced Distinction students must successfully complete Regents examinations in all three mathematics subjects, one physical science subject, and one life science subject. In 2017, 97% of BHS graduates received a Regents diploma.

Regents Diplomas		Regents Diplomas with Advanced Distinction	
2012-13	98%	2012-13	71%
2013-14	98%	2013-14	66%
2014-15	97%	2014-15	68%
2015-16	98%	2015-16	72%
2016-17	97%	2016-17	74%

continued...



A Well-Rounded Education

- Brighton High School was recognized as a High Performing Reward School by the New York State Education Department in February.
- Brighton High School is one of just 19 schools across the state nominated for the National Blue Ribbon School Award in 2018.
- In 2018, Twelve Corners Middle School was designated as a School to Watch for the fifth time.
- In 2017, for the ninth consecutive year, Brighton was designated as a Best Community for Music Education. Brighton's music and art students continue to be recognized on a county, state, and national level for their accomplishments.
- More than 2,600 students participate in our curricular programs in the visual and performing arts. Over 2,000 students participate in the grade 4-12 choral and instrumental program, which includes multiple grade levels of choir, band, orchestra, jazz ensembles, chamber groups, and instrumental lessons. About 250 Brighton students were selected to participate in honor ensembles in NYSSMA Conference All-State, NYSSMA Area All-State, MCSMA All-County, Hochstein Youth Orchestra, and Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra.
- There have been 400 student opportunities for the cast, crew or pit band in the 2017-18 performances of *Legally Blonde The Musical*, *Crazy For You*, *Our Town*, and *Mary Poppins Jr.*
- There are over 1,500 student roster spots on Brighton's 72 interscholastic athletic teams.
- There are over 85 clubs and a variety of academic competitions at the elementary, middle, and high schools.
- There are over 100 student participants in our Summer Arts Camp Program, which will produce four shows this summer: *Disney's Aladdin KIDS*, *Disney's Lion King Jr.*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *Loserville*.
- There are over 700 high school students enrolled in visual arts electives; over 800 BHS/TCMS visual arts students have been recognized in local and regional art exhibitions and contests.
- The 2017 Crossroads yearbook, Galaxy magazine, and Trapezoid newspaper earned top honors in New York state from the Empire State Scholastic Press Association.
- Brighton Model UN Club had nine students win awards for Outstanding or Best Delegate at the UNAR Conference.
- Seven students from the BHS DECA Club competed at the state conference in 2018.



Full Continuum of Services

All students in the District experience rigor and variety in their coursework. Brighton provides students with every opportunity to graduate with the skills necessary to move on to college or a career and to develop their talents to their maximum potential and become successful learners, leaders, and contributors. Programs available to and in support of students include:

- Alternative instructional models for high school students to improve success through hands-on learning, community service, and counseling
- BHS Achievement Centered Education (ACE) Program
- Kindergarten Extended Education Program (KEEP)
- Outdoor Education as an extension of the 6th grade life science curriculum
- Field trips that enhance the curricula and provide real-world experiences
- Literacy, math, and science coaching supports
- Non-mandated AIS supports
- EMCC Course Opportunities including Auto Services, Cisco Networking Academy, Cosmetology, Culinary Arts, Criminal Justice, Early Childhood Education, among others
- Extended studies opportunities for all K-12 students including independent studies, enriched academic courses, and dual credit courses through MCC and Syracuse University.
- Instrumental music starting at fourth grade
- Sixth grade foreign language
- Elementary and high school summer school programs
- Morning shows at FRES, TCMS, and BHS
- Opportunities for a wide variety of electives in all content areas
- More than 20 Advanced Placement courses in different content areas



Where is the Class of 2017?

84 percent of the students in the Class of 2017 planned to continue their education at 4 or 2-year colleges. Brighton students enrolled in more than 83 different post-secondary institutions. 16 percent of Brighton students had other plans including employment, military, and travel.

Board of Education Candidates for Two Seats

The four candidates for two seats are presented in the order that their names will appear on the ballot.

Martha Sciremammano, 18 Glenhill Drive (Resident 32 Years)

Education: B.A. in Anthropology, University of Rochester

Profession/Employment: Community volunteer, retired, bookseller in Barnes & Noble Children's Department

Family: Husband, Frank; two children: Joie Neely (husband, Mark, sons, Jack and CJ), BHS 2001; Frank (wife, Samantha), BHS 2005



School/Community Activities: Member, Brighton Board of Education, 2001 – present; Vice President Board of Education, 2006 – 2009; Trustee, Brighton Education Fund, 2000 – present; Board Representative, Monroe County School Boards Association Information Exchange Committee; Chair, PTSA Festival of Ideas (25 years); Served on BCS Master Plan Committee, District Policy Committee, Shared Services Committee, District Wellness Committee, District Health and Safety Committee; Two-year terms: PTSA Co-Chair, Council Rock Primary School; Co-President, Brighton Central PTSA; PTSA Co-Chair, Brighton High School; PTSA Co-Representative to the Board of Education (6 years); Recipient, New York State PTA Life Membership Award; Brighton Rotary Citizen of the Year, 2002; volunteer assistant, CURE Survivor Day Picnic; Past-president, Evans Farm Neighborhood Association; member, Brighton Baseball Board (5 years); Girl Scout Leader (4 years), sports booster activities, numerous PTSA and community activities.

Statement: *It is an honor to serve as a member of the Board of Education in the Brighton community, where education is so highly valued and appreciated, and the needs of our children always come first. I have spent my volunteer career committed to working together to solve the complex issues facing education today, always keeping foremost in our thoughts our commitment to the excellence that defines our Brighton Schools. Today's students must continue to receive top-notch knowledge, tools, and opportunities to become all that they can be. Together, we will continue our tradition of appreciating each member of our school community for who they are and for what they bring to our schools. I'm proud to be part of the collaborative team that is committed to this excellence. My children's first day at Council Rock School started my many years of volunteer efforts within Brighton. As a member of the Board of Education, I hope to continue to serve our district with the dedication and energy that I have shown for these many years.*

Mark Kokanovich, 39 I Clover Hills Drive (Resident 25 years)

Education: B.A. in Business Administration, Baldwin Wallace College

Profession/Employment: Full-time community volunteer; Previously in business in the precision metalworking machinery industry

Family: Wife, Jean Maess; children, Kate (BHS 2005), Bethany (BHS 2007)



School/Community Activities: Member, Brighton Board of Education, 2006 – present; School Board President, 2009 – present; Member, District Diversity and Equity, District Safety, Audit, and Start Time Committees, and District Curriculum Council; Past-President, Member, Monroe County School Boards Association, Executive and Legislative Committees; Member, Act for Education Public Education Advocacy Committee; Member and Vice-Chair, Town of Brighton Parks and Recreation Citizen's Advisory Board, 2002 – present; Member, Town of Brighton Comprehensive Plan Review Steering Committee, 2014 – present; Member, Brighton Veterans Memorial Committee, 2009 – present; 25-year Brighton PTSA Member, Recipient of PTSA Lifetime Membership Award; Member, Wilmot Cancer Institute Advisory Board, 2006 – present; Member, Pancreatic Cancer Association of WNY Advisory Board, 2015 – present; 2017 Brighton Rotary Citizen of the Year; 2017 NYS School Administrators Association Friend of Education award. Multiple activities with local non-profit organizations.

Statement: *We are truly fortunate to live in an exceptionally supportive community that places the highest priority and respect on the education of all of our children. It has been an honor to serve the community as a member of our very dedicated and devoted Board of Education. It has been a joy and privilege to work collaboratively with our board, leadership team, teachers, staff, students and families to address the challenges that come our way. I continue to have the passion for our students and families, commitment to the work at hand, and the time to devote to this important work. I pledge to continue to work responsibly and prudently, as a member of our highly effective governance team, in these challenging times for public education. I remain dedicated and committed to providing strong District leadership and support to best serve the needs of all of our students. It would be a privilege to continue to serve our community by helping to preserve and grow all that is a "Brighton Education." I am most appreciative of the continuing support from our community.*

Board of Education Candidates Continued

Cindy Sobieraj, 53 Modelane (Resident 15 years)



Education: B.S. in Communications Management, Ithaca College; MBA in Marketing, Fordham University

Profession/Employment: Executive Director, Marketing and Donor Relations, Division of Development and Alumni Relations, Rochester Institute of Technology

Family: Daughters Gemma (sophomore at BHS) and Lia (eighth grader at TCMS)

School/Community Activities: Member, Brighton PTSA, 2007 – present; Partnerships in Pluralism, RIT, 2016 – 2017; Moms Demand Action, 2017 – present; Action Together Network, 2016 – present; Member, Brighton Girls Soccer Booster Club, 2014 – present; Member, Brighton Runners Booster Club, 2016 – present; Troop co-leader, Girl Scouts of Western New York, 2009 – 2015; CRPS classroom volunteer, 2007 – 2013; Volunteer Chinese Dance Coordinator, Families with Children from China, 2006 – 2013; Volunteer, Make a Wish Foundation, 1994 – 1995; Volunteer, New York Cares, 1990 – 1993; Volunteer tutor, English as a Second Language, 1987 – 1989.

Statement: *Our schools are a hallmark of Brighton. Many, like my family, seek to live in Brighton because of our history of academic excellence, commitment to diversity and the support from a caring community. I am running for School Board because I want to help our schools build on our heritage of excellence because “education is the cornerstone of our society and it is crucial to building the knowledge and skills of our young people.” A great community combined with stellar teachers, dedicated staff, strong administrators, devoted parents, and a committed school board help shape our students to be responsible, resilient, and productive members of an ever-changing world. I am passionate about contributing to the success of our children and the schools that support their individual potential. I would be honored to join the School Board and I will work closely with those who share my desire to realize these goals for our children. If elected, I look forward to fulfilling our district’s mission and vision and helping to shape the future of our schools. I ask for your vote on May 15.*

Christina Lee, 281 Edgemoor Road (Resident 20 Years)



Education: Graduate of Brighton High School (1989); B.A., SUNY Buffalo; M.A. in Cultural Anthropology, University of Colorado Boulder

Profession/Employment: Adjunct Assistant Professor in Anthropology and Sociology, Monroe Community College; Curriculum Lead, Global Education and International Services, Monroe Community College

Family: Husband, Marc; Children Miya (sophomore at BHS), Rose (seventh grader at TCMS), and Oscar (fifth grader at FRES)

School/Community Activities: Room parent, 2015-16 and 2017-18; Classroom and field trip volunteer, 2012 – present; PTSA activities volunteer, 2012 – present; Parents of Color Support Group through BCSD Family Support Group, 2018; Brownie and Girl Scout co-leader, 2012 – 2016; Board member, Asian Pacific Islander American Association, 2018; Unite Rochester community blogger for the Democrat and Chronicle, 2012 – 2016; Memorial Art Gallery Celebration Series Advisory Committee member, 2017 – present; Seneca Falls Dialogues Planning Committee member, 2017 – present.

Statement: *I am running for the BCSD Board of Education to give back to the community that gave me a strong foundation for learning and continues to provide that foundation for my children and their peers. My parents moved to the Brighton school district 40 years ago because they heard from many immigrant families that Brighton had a strong academic program, dedicated teachers, and welcomed parental involvement. These are the same reasons that I am confident about raising my own children in this school district. I recognize the work that our board, administration, teachers, parents, and staff do each day to provide a safe, engaging, and challenging environment for our students. I hope that I will be given a chance to serve on our Board of Education and continue the Board’s commitment to an equitable and global education for all our children.*



2035 Monroe Ave., Rochester, NY 14618
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www.bcsd.org

Superintendent

Kevin C. McGowan, Ed.D.

Newsletter Editor

Dan Goldman

Non Profit Organization
U. S. Postage
PAID
Rochester, New York
Permit No. 929

Voting Information

Annual Budget Hearing

Tuesday, May 8, 2018, 7 p.m., Brighton Administration Building,
2035 Monroe Ave. Televised on Cable 1303.

When and Where to Vote

Tuesday, May 15, 2018, 7 a.m. – 9 p.m., Brighton High
School, Lower Level, 1150 Winton Road South. Handicapped
accessible. All votes will be cast on optical-scan paper ballots
this year.

Voter Qualifications

- You must be a resident of the school district for at least 30 days immediately preceding the vote.
- You must be at least 18 years of age.
- You must be a citizen of the United States.
- You need **one proof of residency** such as a driver's license or non-driver's ID.
- You do not need to be registered.

Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots are available to qualified school district voters. An application for a ballot must first be completed. Requests for absentee ballots must be received by the Clerk of the District on or prior to May 8, 2018, at 4 p.m. if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or on or prior to May 14, 2018, at 4 p.m. if the ballot is to be picked up by the voter. For information, call the office of the Board Clerk at 242-5200 ext. 5080 or visit 2035 Monroe Avenue. Completed absentee ballots must be received by 5 p.m. on the date of the school budget vote, May 15.

Additional Information

- Proposed budget details are available in the Brighton Memorial Library and all school offices, including the District Business Office, 2035 Monroe Ave. All budget documents are also posted online at www.bcsd.org.
- Call Lou Alaimo, Assistant Superintendent for Administration, at 242-5200 ext. 5088 if you have budget questions.
- A video of the Budget Adoption Presentation may be viewed by visiting the District webpage at www.bcsd.org and hovering over District and clicking on District Videos. Then click on Board of Education. The video will also be broadcast on Brighton cable channel 1303 on the following schedule:

Mondays	7:00 a.m., 4:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m.
Tuesdays	7:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m.
Wednesdays	7:00 a.m., 4:00 p.m.
Thursdays	7:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m.
Fridays	7:00 a.m., 4:00 p.m.



**TIME TO
VOTE!**

May 15, 2018

