

## The 2021-22 Proposed Budget

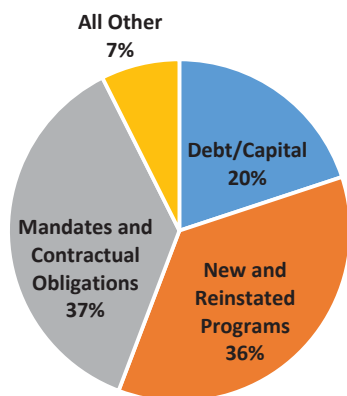
The 2021-22 Budget Proposal requests authorization to increase spending 5.7% to \$87,686,048. This would result in a tax levy increase of 2.85%, which complies within the parameters of the New York State Tax Cap.

### 2021-22 Budget Summary

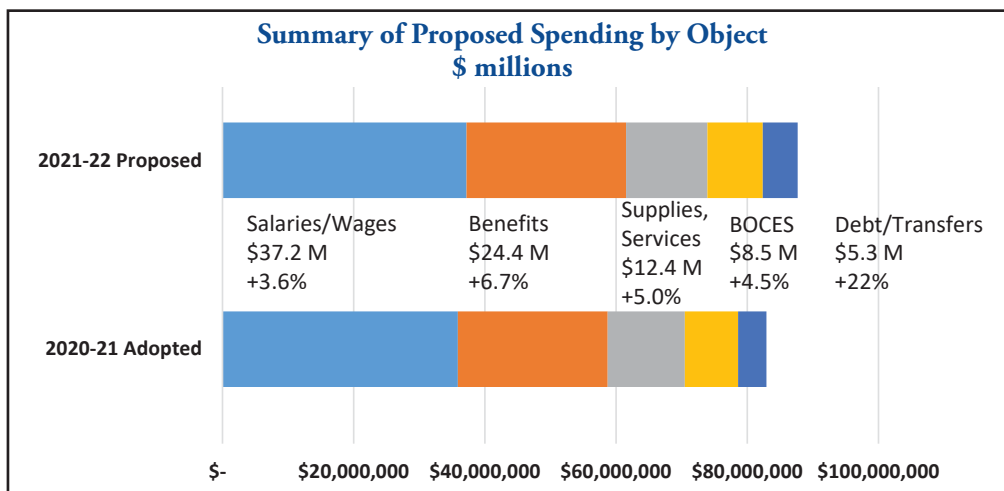
	2020-21 Adopted Budget	2021-22 Proposed Budget	\$ Change	% Change
A) Total Preliminary Budget Amount	\$82,943,949	\$87,686,048	\$4,742,099	5.72%
B) State and Federal Sources	9,063,651	11,964,993	2,901,342	
C) Unrestricted Foundation Aid	8,210,697	9,914,042	1,703,345	
D) Local Sources - Other than Tax Levy	5,762,711	6,077,042	314,331	
E) Amount of Fund Balance Used for Levy of Tax	4,361,000	2,600,000	(1,761,000)	
F) Non-Property Tax Revenues (B+C+D+E)	\$27,398,059	\$30,556,077	3,158,018	11.53%
G) Total Real Property Tax Levy (A-F)	\$55,545,890	\$57,129,971	\$1,584,081	2.85%
% Increase in Real Property Tax Levy	Complies with NYS Tax Cap		2.85%	

State and Federal Sources account for building aid generated from the 2017 Brighton Facilities Improvement Plan and an increase in Foundation Aid by the legislature setting a minimum amount due to districts equal to 60%. The Legislature has committed to fully funding Foundation Aid over the next three years.

### Areas Requiring Additional Budget Allocations 2020-2021 Adopted to 2021-2022 Proposed



### Summary of Proposed Spending by Object \$ millions



The proposed spending plan for 2021-22 maintains all existing academic programs and provides contingency for alternative learning models that may be required by the State Education Department. It also adds funding for full-day kindergarten, sixth grade foreign language, and increased participation in BOCES occupational education programs. Mandates and contractual obligations include special education services, required pension contributions, health care premium costs, and cyber security infrastructure required by Education Law 2d.

### Key Takeaways

- The full-day kindergarten program would begin in the fall
- Restoration of previously reduced programs would begin
- The full continuum of services would be preserved, including extracurricular and co-curricular activities

**TIME TO  
VOTE!**

**May 18, 2021**

7 a.m. - 9 p.m. • Central Administration Building Door 4 • 2035 Monroe Ave.

# Full-Day Kindergarten

Brighton Central School District is thrilled to be able to offer full-day kindergarten to its fall 2021 kindergarten class. The planning for this moment started seven years ago when committees were formed to study the instructional and infrastructure implications for this initiative. Given the District's commitment to equipping students with the knowledge, values, and skills that will enrich their lives and enable them to become responsible, contributing citizens of a changing global community, it only made sense to start with its youngest learners. Increasing expectations by New York State along with our community's desire to provide expanded learning opportunities for our kindergartners paved the way for the decision to pursue the plan. Full-day kindergarten will provide staff with the necessary time to go deeper into each of our curricular areas while promoting culturally responsive practices where we build relationships through collaborative learning and build cognitive processes and structures that support complex thinking and independent learning. The increased time will also allow for increased opportunities for students to engage in authentic and developmentally appropriate learning opportunities, such as project-based learning, personalized learning, purposeful play, and inquiry. In addition, we will be able to fully implement our curriculum and use existing programs such as Everyday Math, Road to Reading, and Handwriting Without Tears to their fullest extent. This year, iPads were purchased for all students across grades K-5. Full-day kindergarten will allow teachers to incorporate the judicious and effective use of technology into the learning environment in meaningful ways. Support services such as special education, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech, and academic intervention will be more easily embedded into a student's instructional plan as it makes sense for the student and their schedule. While there are myriad benefits to shifting to a full-day kindergarten, possibly one of the most important is that a full-day program will allow us to realize the Council Rock mission: To develop joyful learners and contributing members of the community through developmentally appropriate practice.

## 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 sixth 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, Automated Manufacturing and Machining, CISCO Networking, Collision Repair Technology, Construction Trades, Cosmetology, Nail and Waxing Specialty with Makeup Artistry, New Vision Education Professions, Criminal Justice, Culinary Arts, Early Childhood Education, Emergency Services, New Vision Medical Careers, PC Repair/Network Cabling, Professional Health Careers, Trade Electricity, Visual Communication and Photography, and Welding and Fabrication
- 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

## Estimated Tax Impact

2021-22 Est. Tax Rate (per \$1,000 of taxable assessed value)	Resulting Est. Tax Bill Increase Brighton	Resulting Est. Tax Bill Increase Pittsford (Excluding Relevy Amount)
Town of Brighton \$26.69 per \$1,000	\$0.70 per \$1,000 of taxable assessed value:	\$1.87 per \$1,000 of taxable assessed value:
Town of Pittsford* \$27.87 per \$1,000	\$100,000 = \$70.00	\$100,000 = \$187.00
*+ \$1.35 per \$1,000 as one-time reassessment due to equalization decreased to 95% in 2020	\$200,000 = \$140.00	\$200,000 = \$375.00
	\$300,000 = \$210.00	\$300,000 = \$562.00
	Equalization rate expected to decrease to 95%	Equalization rate expected to decrease to 91%

## Proposition 1

The proposition authorizes the District to undertake a capital improvement in the amount of \$5,100,000. The proposition also authorizes the withdrawal of \$1,500,000 from the Capital Reserve to pay the local share of the project and allows the District to leverage State Building Aid by financing the remainder totaling \$3,600,000. **Approval of this proposition would not increase the current budget or tax levy.** The scope of the project includes classroom renovations, locker room renovations and site work improvements at Brighton High School, HVAC upgrades and renovations to the pool area, replacement of pool filtration systems, upgrades to stadium lights, and roof replacement at Twelve Corners Middle School.

# Educational Quality

## 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, Human Geography, 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
2016	439	1,076	85%
2017	418	975	90%
2018	443	928	89%
2019	464	1,010	88%
2020	491	1,093	87%

*\*73% 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 2021 with 311 students has 4 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists. 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
2016	599	489	494
2017*	633	527	533
2018	633	528	523
2019	635	531	531
2020	635	528	528

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

### Math

	Brighton	NYS	National
2016	601	501	508
2017	621	531	527
2018	621	533	527
2019	634	533	528
2020	634	530	523

## 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 2020, the national composite score was 20.6 and the NYS composite was 24.9.

### Composite Scores

	Brighton	NYS	National
2016	27.9	23.9	20.8
2017	27.5	24.2	21.0
2018	27.5	24.5	20.8
2019	28.0	24.5	20.9
2020	27.8	24.9	20.6

## Percentage 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 2020, 98% of BHS graduates received a Regents diploma.

Regents Diplomas		Regents Diplomas with Advanced Distinction	
2015-16	98%	2015-16	72%
2016-17	97%	2016-17	74%
2017-18	90%	2017-18	68%
2018-19	97%	2018-19	68%
2019-20	98%	2019-20	68%

## Where is the Class of 2020?

89% of the students in the Class of 2020 planned to continue their education at 4 or 2-year colleges. Brighton students enrolled in more than 108 different post-secondary institutions. 11% of Brighton students had other plans including employment, military, and travel.

# School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2020-21 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2021-22 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2021-22 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount	\$82,943,949	\$87,686,048	\$86,101,967
Increase/(decrease) for the 2020-21 school year		\$4,742,099	\$3,158,018
Percentage increase(decrease) in each proposed budget		5.72%	3.81%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.23%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted	\$55,545,890	\$57,129,971	
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)	\$55,545,890	\$57,129,971	\$55,545,890
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$1,002,895	\$1,708,730	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$54,542,995	\$55,421,241	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Excluding Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$54,542,995	\$55,421,241	
I. Difference: (G – H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)	\$0	\$0	
Administrative component	\$8,655,254	\$8,970,594	\$8,872,188
Program component	\$64,327,286	\$67,421,140	\$65,935,465
Capital component	\$9,961,409	\$11,294,314	\$11,294,314
<p><i>The contingent 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.</i></p> <p><i>Propositions are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount. No propositions proposed increases or decreases the proposed tax levy or school tax levy limit.</i></p>			
<b>Proposition 1: 2021-22 Capital Project with Capital Reserve Fund Withdrawal</b>	<b>Total Authorization \$5,100,000</b> <b>Capital Reserve Withdrawal \$1,500,000</b>		
Estimated Basic STAR Exemptions Savings	<b>Town of Brighton \$741</b> <b>Town of Pittsford \$752</b>		



# Board of Education Candidates for Two Seats

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

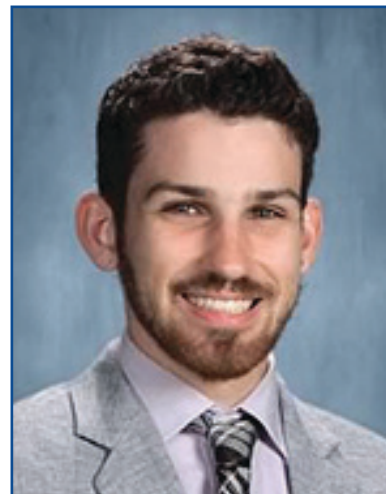
## Robert Bonfiglio (Resident 3 Years)

**Education:** B.A. in Mathematics and Comparative American Studies, Oberlin College; M.S. in Education Policy, University of Rochester

**Profession/Employment:** Academic Interventionist, Nativity Preparatory Academy; Mathematics Teacher

**School/Community Activities:** Originally from Geneseo, I have tutored and partnered with some Brighton families during the pandemic for remote learning assistance. I have been a math teacher for five years (in Boston, Brooklyn, and Rochester). I am on the editing team for several LGBTQ organizations, including Rochester's ImageOut Literary Magazine. Both professionally and in my graduate studies, I have engaged in and led committee work around areas of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

**Statement:** As a middle and high school teacher, my incentive for running for Brighton's school board is to highlight teacher representation. I hope to apply my background in education policy and mathematics to help assess and meet the community's needs. I have been an advocate for all my families and students, but especially have been successful at supporting LGBTQ youth where I have had the privilege to teach. I look forward to the opportunity of bringing an outsider's perspective to the school board as I continue to make Brighton my home and develop relationships with my peers.



## Christopher Ross (Resident 6 Years)

**Education:** B.A. in History, University of California, Berkeley; M.A. in History, Duke University; B.S. in Nursing, University of Rochester

**Profession/Employment:** RN, Utilization Management, Excellus

**Family:** Wife, Bridget; daughter, Quinn (CRPS second grader)

**School/Community Activities:** Panelist, FRES Black History Month, February 2021; Member, Brighton Democratic Committee, May 2020-present; Member, Town of Brighton's Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Advisory (IDEA) Board, November 2018-present; Member, Brighton Families of Color, April 2018-present.

**Statement:** It's time, Brighton. Our schools should provide all our children with an inclusive, rigorous education that prepares them to navigate an increasingly complex and diverse world with empathy, curiosity, and resilience. For our schools to be successful for all students, district officials must expand their traditional communication networks to engage and include historically absent voices in deliberations about present and future policies and programs. I will ensure that these opinions have been heard before critical decisions are made. Of equal importance is securing the constitutionally mandated funding that New York owes the district. Sustaining Brighton's exceptional academic and extracurricular programs and developing new ones requires ongoing financial investment and support. We need Albany to do its part so that we can do ours. As a Board member, I will be a tireless advocate for obtaining the resources necessary to maintain Brighton's academic excellence. Let's do this, Brighton!



## Christina Heyon Lee (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:** Global Education Coordinator, Monroe Community College

**Family:** Children, Miya (BHS 2020 graduate), Rose (BHS sophomore), and Oscar (TCMS eighth grader)

**School/Community Activities:** Board Member, BCSD Board of Education, 2018-present; Area 2 Representative, New York State School Board Association's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee, 2021; Co-Founder and Member, Brighton's Parents/Families of Color Group, 2018-present; Board Member, Asian Pacific Islander American Association of Greater Rochester, 2018-present; Steering Committee Member, Levine Center to End Hate, 2019-present; Co-Chair, Seneca Falls Dialogues Conference, 2018-2020.

**Statement:** I've had the privilege of serving one term on BCSD's Board of Education and am running for a second term this spring. I am running for BCSD Board of Education again because I want to continue the work that we as a district are doing to provide a challenging, equitable, inclusive and nurturing education for all our children. I will advocate for continuing and sustained state funding for our schools so that we can provide a diversity of programming at all grade levels. My parents moved to the Brighton school district 40 years ago because of the strong academic program, dedicated teachers, and welcomed parent involvement. These are the same reasons that I brought my own family back to this district and why I would like to continue to serve the district in this capacity. As a community, we are raising confident, inquisitive, life-long learners and I am here to support you and your families.



## Esther Winter (Resident 18 Years)

**Education:** B.F.A. in Musical Theatre, Syracuse University

**Profession/Employment:** Owner/Center Director, Canalside Music Together in Pittsford since 2006

**Family:** Husband, John; children, John, Madeleine (BHS grads), Harrison (BHS senior), and Julia (TCMS eighth grader)

**School/Community Activities:** Council Rock Principal Selection Committee, 2012; Volunteer, BCSD Visual and Performing Arts for Lion King, 2017; Volunteer, Teacher Appreciation Luncheon, 2003-2018; Panelist, BHS College and Career Night, 2016 and 2017; Teacher Trainer, Music Together Worldwide, 2018-present; Director/Choreographer, JCC CenterStage, 2015-2019; Artist Educator, Geva Theatre Center, 2018; Creative Producer, Recognition Radio Series, Geva Theatre Center, 2020; Artistic Council, Geva Theatre Center, 2021.

**Statement:** I grew up in Los Angeles, California, and attended Syracuse University where I completed a B.F.A. in Musical Theatre. After graduating and moving to Manhattan, I enjoyed a career as a performer for over 11 years. In 2003, my husband and I relocated to Brighton to be closer to family and take advantage of the highly regarded school system here. Being a Black woman, and having children of mixed race, I feel it is important that our school board reflect the cultural makeup of our district. As a student who benefited significantly from my exposure to the arts, I will ensure that Brighton's arts programs continue to get the support they deserve. I look forward to working with the rest of the board and providing my unique point of view to enrich the lives of the children of this community. Thank you, and I appreciate your vote.



## Avram Berman (Resident 3 Years)

**Education:** B.S. in Business Administration, SUNY Brockport

**Profession/Employment:** Since 1993, Owner of AJ Berman Associates, Inc., provider of high level, non-scripted, marketing and sales

**Family:** Partner, Eileen Shannon and daughters, 2 and 3 years old

**School/Community Activities:** In preparation for my children attending BCSD, I've been laying groundwork as an advocate for transparency, inclusion, first amendment and fiscal responsibility – to learn more about my candidacy, please visit [brightonspeaks.com](http://brightonspeaks.com) (work in progress) or call me directly at (716) 638-0032.

**Statement:** The Brighton Central School District serves at the pleasure of the community, which means meeting the educational needs of our children while balancing the fiscal capacity of our residents and school district. If elected, I will shape policies that reflect the will of our community, which includes our students, their parents, teachers, staff and residents without children in attendance – who make up over 60% of our voting district. I will reintroduce and reinforce the principles of rejecting racism, exclusion, censorship, propaganda, voter suppression, unchecked accountability and the politicization of social injustice. I will rebuild our foundation to promote transparency, the dissemination of information that is timely and unambiguous, the public engagement of our school officials and protection of the rights of our students, their parents and the teachers whom we entrust. I look forward to working with everyone to improve and evolve our community and school district, to form a more perfect union, whereby the narrative is public, not private, perception is based on facts, not propaganda, and most importantly, where everyone has a voice, is heard and is acknowledged.



## Federal Funding

The District has recently learned that it will be the recipient of federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) dollars to help address the impact the COVID virus has had on the students in Brighton. We realize that returning to the status quo will not address the full impact of COVID on students' social, emotional, physical, mental health, and academic needs. Because of that, approaches to school reopening must be designed in ways that meet the needs of students. Although specific plans are still underway for how those dollars will be spent, the District is committed to focusing the funds on addressing the mental health needs of individuals as well as the potential learning loss some students have experienced over the last year. The goal for these funds will be to incorporate additional evidence-based strategies to meet the needs of our most affected students.







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**Superintendent**

Kevin C. McGowan, Ed.D.

**Newsletter Editor**

Dan Goldman

Non Profit Organization  
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Permit No. 929

## Voting Information

### Annual Budget Hearing

Tuesday, May 11, 2021, 7 p.m., via Zoom

### When and Where to Vote

Tuesday, May 18, 2021, 7 a.m. - 9 p.m., Central Administration Building, Gymnasium, Door 4, 2035 Monroe Ave. **This is a new location for 2021.** Handicapped accessible. All votes will be cast on optical-scan paper ballots.

### 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.

### 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 [bcsd.org/budget](http://bcsd.org/budget).
- Call Lou Alaimo, Assistant Superintendent for Administration, at 242-5200 ext. 5510 if you have budget questions.

### Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots are available to qualified school district voters. This year, the illness reason for absence has been expanded to instances where a voter is unable to appear personally at the polling place of the school district in which they are a qualified voter because there is a risk of contracting or spreading a disease that may cause illness to them or to other members of the public. An application for an absentee ballot must first be completed. Requests for absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk on or before May 11, 2021 if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or on or before May 17, 2021 if the ballot is to be picked up by the voter. To request an absentee ballot, contact [vote@bcsd.org](mailto:vote@bcsd.org), or if you don't have access to email, call the office of the District Clerk at 242-5200 ext. 5502. Completed absentee ballots must be received by 5 p.m. on the date of the school budget vote and Board of Education election, May 18, 2021.