

# **BUDGET NEWS**

## The 2014-15 Proposed Budget

Approval of the budget would result in an estimated 3.3% property tax levy increase and a 2.15% tax rate increase based on the tentative assessments provided by the Town of Brighton on April 10. The budget proposition would authorize the appropriation of \$69,868,796 to meet estimated school district expenditures for the 2014-15 school year. Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011, commonly referred to as the Property Tax Cap, limits the amount of taxes an entity may levy based on a formula. This formula calculated an allowable tax levy limit of 1.81% for Brighton Central School District (see page 10) as submitted to the State Comptroller. The remaining 2014-15 propositions and Board of Education candidate information can be found on page 6.

## What's Included in the 2014-15 Proposed Budget?

As part of the 2014-15 budget development process, the District performed an exhaustive review of the programs and services that are provided in the Proposed Budget. Below are some of the highlights the District provides resources for above and beyond State mandates:

- Literacy and math coaching supports K-8
- · Additional reading supports at the elementary level
- Academic intervention services beyond mandated levels
- Targeted professional development for our teachers and paraprofessionals
- Enrichment programs K-8
- Wrap-around Kindergarten program at CRPS
- Instrumental music at 4th grade
- Elementary summer school program
- BOCES Challenger and Mobile Science Labs
- FLEX program at TCMS designed to improve student-adult connectedness
- 6th grade foreign language
- Outdoor Education program
- BOCES BUBL Program
- Field trips that enhance the curricula and provide real-world experiences

- Intramural opportunities
- · Morning Shows at TCMS and BHS
- Alternative education programming at BHS
- Opportunities for a wide variety of electives in all content areas, including unique programs, such as energy and sustainability, video gaming, sports and entertainment marketing, comparative religions, etc.)
- 20 Advanced Placement courses in different content areas
- · BOCES radio station
- · Extended library hours and student support
- More than 85 clubs and extracurricular activities at the middle school and high school, including FBLA, E-Cubed Fair, Debate and Speech Club, DECA, Model UN, Masterminds, Stock Market Simulation
- Support for visual and performing arts program for more than 2,900 students
- An interscholastic sports program for over 1,470 roster spots
- Security staffing allocated to FRES and CRPS
- Family Support Center

We believe this budget is about choices. The 2014-15 Proposed Budget allocates funding consistent with the District's priorities:

Safety, Security and Wellness - Our most important job is to keep all members of the school community safe and secure in an environment that fosters overall wellness. We will continue to review and update our practices in these areas. We will constantly strive to demonstrate and instill our Brighton Beliefs: Integrity, Respect, Responsibility, Kindness and Self-Control. We will provide an environment that is safe, secure and conducive to learning.

Rigorous Coursework for All Students - All students should be provided with coursework that is challenging at their individual instructional level. Each learner has distinct needs, and each child's talents should be developed to their maximum potential. We will focus our review

of current practices and results on our ability to provide each child with instruction that is focused on their needs.

Creativity and Innovation - Our students need to be prepared for professions and life experiences that we have not yet imagined. We will work to prepare students with skills and attributes that will help them be successful learners, leaders, and contributors ready for college and careers. We commit to thinking differently and offering innovative programming that goes far beyond state standards and typical expectations.

Early Childhood Programming - The district recognizes that a strong start and developmentally appropriate practices from the very beginning are essential components of a successful academic program. We will review our current programs in Kindergarten to determine their alignment with community expectations, research-supported

practice and our resource capacity to support expansion.

**Instructional Technology -** Students and staff should have access to tools and materials that allow them to utilize information and resources that maximize learning. We will review opportunities to take advantage of technologies that can enhance the learning experience for students at the individual level.

Ongoing Systems Focused on Continuous Growth - Our tradition of excellence has been maintained and furthered through reliance on systems that have always focused on the review of current practice and a reflective nature that encourages smart changes focused on long-term, continuous growth. We will continue to support and promote established systems such as program evaluation, ad-hoc and standing K-12 committees focused on particular areas, community-based planning teams, and building-level committees.

#### **Bottom Line**

The Brighton Central School District is proposing a budget that exceeds the NYS tax cap. Consequently, some of our taxpayers will not be eligible for a tax rebate. In exchange, we are working tirelessly to fulfill our commitment to the children of our community.



May 20, 2014

7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Brighton High School, Lower Level 1150 Winton Road South



INTEGRITY
RESPECT
RESPONSIBILITY
KINDNESS
SELF-CONTROL

### **Proposed Budget Expenditures**

At the onset of the budget development process, the District projected spending to increase 3.4%. With the preliminary decrease in non-property tax revenues, the levy would have needed to increase 6.14% to balance the budget. This was unacceptable. In response, the District took the following actions:

1) Reduced spending by more than \$850,000. The District was able to reduce its spending projections by:

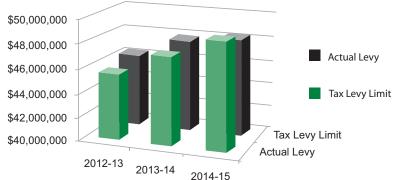
	2014-15 Budget	% Change
A) Total Preliminary Budget Amount	\$69,868,796	2.02%
B) Total Revenues Other Than Real		
Property Taxes (Excluding Tax Levy)	\$17,204,120	-1.44%
C) Amount of Fund Balance Used for Levy of Tax	\$3,768,873	1.92%
D) Non-Property Tax Revenues (B+C)	\$20,972,993	-0.86%
E) Total Real Property Tax Levy (A-D)	\$48,895,803	3.30%

- a. Finding efficiencies in our staff allocations, thereby avoiding the addition of four additional teachers;
- b. Freezing department and building allocations except for adjustments required to maintain program, respond to mandated increases, and/or respond to health and safety concerns;
- c. Decreasing funding allocated to expand elective programs at Brighton High School;
- d. Analyzing budget-to-actual forecasts to tighten up areas where the budget exceeded actual demand.
- 2) Applied additional State Aid provided in the adopted State budget totaling more than \$500,000.

## Impact of the Proposed Budget as it Relates to the Property Tax Cap

Despite the District's efforts to find efficiencies and cost reductions, as well as the application of the entire State Aid increase to reduce the local property tax burden; the 2014-15 Proposed Budget exceeds the NYS Property Tax Cap. The complex formula would allow for a 1.81% increase in taxes. This would have limited spending to a 1.25% increase. The chart below shows the District's historical performance against the Tax Cap.

During the last two budgets, the District did not feel it was necessary to tax at the cap limit. We were able to balance spending and revenues without over taxing. However, in the current year, because of the pressures on spending, the standards we set for our programs, and the decrease in other revenues, the District is seeking to override the 1.81% cap with a proposed 3.3% increase in tax levy. This proposition will require a 60% passage rate. Single family homeowners, eligible for STAR savings and whose income is within a certain range, will not be eligible to receive the property tax rebate check of \$34 estimated for a home valued at \$200,000, because the District is seeking to exceed the cap.



	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Total Tax Levy Limit	46,155,079	47,732,129	48,188,401
Actual (Estimated) Levy	45,570,897	47,333,782	48,895,803
Amount (Under) /Over Cap	-584,182	-398,347	707,402
% Over (Under) Cap	-1.3%	-0.8%	1.5%
Cumulative Dollar Difference Compared to Cap			-275,127

## This Budget is About Choices

We believe that the community would choose to:\*

- Maintain smaller class sizes at the elementary level
- Maintain the availability of the wide variety of electives and AP courses at the secondary level
- Expand our in-district special education and enrichment offerings
- Preserve sports and music opportunities
- Enable students to connect to school by offering a wide range of extra classroom activities
- · Provide paraprofessional hours to support students and provide access to instructional resources
- Provide tutoring and academic intervention services beyond mandated levels

\*The basis for these assumptions and beliefs is the results of the community budget survey, which was consistent with the previous two years' data with respect to community preferences and priorities; and public comments and feedback from residents throughout the budget development process.

## **Pressures on Spending**

The NYS Property Tax Limit would allow for a 1.25% increase in spending. The Proposed Budget recommends a 2.02% increase in spending. This is the second lowest spending increase in 10 years. To stay within the Cap limit, the District would have to reduce spending by \$707,402.

When reviewing the 2014-15 Budget document available on the district's web-site, please consider the following factors:

- 1. Public education is a service industry that requires dedicated and talented people. 76% of the preliminary budget is attributable to personnel costs.
- 2. Each year the district performs a comprehensive staffing review to ensure that all staffing allocations are appropriate to support the programs and services valued by our community. For 2014-15, the District responded to increased enrollment and changing student needs by proposing the addition of five teaching positions and five instructional support positions
- to maintain smaller class sizes and meet program mandates. This allowed the District to maintain class size at 18 for Kindergarten and no more than 23 at 5<sup>th</sup> grade compared to 21 and more than 25, respectively. This alone would require a tax levy increase greater than 1.2% (of the 1.81% tax cap limit).
- 3. State pension obligations are a mandated payroll cost not negotiated by the district or staff members. Before any contractual obligations, the increase in rates requires a tax levy increase of 0.7% (of the 1.81% tax cap limit).
- 4. Contractual salary increases also impact our ability to attract and retain high-quality staff. A 1% increase in salary impacts the tax levy 0.8% (of the 1.81% tax cap limit).
- 5. In addition to payroll costs, the District contends with increases to utilities, insurance, printing, mailing, computing costs, and many other non-instructional costs required to support the education of our students. A 1% increase in such costs calls for a 0.5% increase in the tax levy.

### **Cost Efficiencies**

Pressure on spending is nothing new to the District. Each year we have offset the growth in spending by reducing/consolidating positions, finding efficiencies in our operations, and reviewing opportunities to share costs with our neighboring districts.

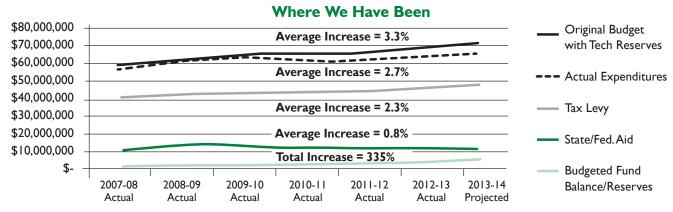
- Consolidations/Eliminated Positions
   Since 2010-11, 87.65 Full-Time-Equivalent positions have been consolidated or eliminated at a total spending reduction of \$3,347,277
- Cooperative Bidding
   For the procurement of products and certain services that will exceed the maximum level allowed by law during the fiscal year
- Employee Benefits
   Self-insuring either cooperatively or individually for Workers'
   Compensation, dental insurance, and health insurances
- Negotiating an increase in employee contributions
- Going Green
   Using mandated green cleaning products, expanding existing recycle program, reducing the amount of paper, installing an automatic shut-off to

District computers, installation of energy-efficient windows and boilers, and replacing inefficient light fixtures

- Partnerships and Grants
   Self-insuring cooperatively for liability and property insurance
- Purchasing services and instructional, staff, and curriculum support services through BOCES
- Collaborating with area colleges to provide a wide variety of learning opportunities
- Renting out classroom space not currently needed
- Receiving grants to enhance the educational program
- · Cooperatively purchasing natural gas, food and supplies
- Partnering with the Town of Brighton to share resources and programs

#### **Pressures on Revenues**

Reviewing the recent trends is important when discussing the 2014-15 budget proposal – every year's decisions impacts the subsequent year's budget:



The chart above shows that the District has made efforts to minimize the growth in property taxes. We have used more fund balance and reserves over the past several years in response to the overall decrease in State and Federal Aids. This is not a practice that can be sustained over the long-term. A prudent fiscal strategy is to pay for recurring operating expenses with recurring revenues. Furthermore, since 2009-10, all other revenues received by Brighton (excluding property taxes and State Aid) have increased less than 3%. Consequently, without increased funding from other sources, there will continue to be pressure on the local property taxpayer who already pays 71% of the budget and more reliance on State Aid, which funds 17% of the budget.

# **Impact of State Aid**

#### **Foundation Aid:**

The State has frozen and deferred its obligations under the Foundation Aid formula since 2008-09. The result is that Brighton is receiving \$5.57 million less than it is entitled to.

This is an 11.8% shift to local property taxpayers.

#### **Foundation Aid Trends**

Enacted State Budget/School Year	Actual Aid	State Formula Aid	State Implemented Timeline
2007-08	\$5,164,815	\$9,971,236	2010-11
2008-09	\$5,930,584	\$10,301,549	2010-11
2009-10	\$5,930,584	\$11,988,793	2013-14
2010-11	\$5,930,584	\$11,953,413	2013-14
2011-12	\$5,930,584	\$13,702,323	2016-17
2012-13	\$6,063,652	\$13,758,124	2016-17
2013-14	\$6,082,043	\$13,582,950	2016-17
2014-15	\$6,379,058	\$13,582,950	2016-17

#### GEA:

The Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) is a tool used by the State to withhold money due to public school districts. The State's adopted budget gives Brighton back only \$273,693 of this amount. This allows us to reduce the local property tax burden by 0.6%. The 2014-15 GEA reduction represents a 3.5% shift to local property taxpayers.

#### **GEA Trends**

School Year	GEA	<b>GEA Restoration</b>	Net GEA
2010-11	-\$2,152,429	\$730,794	-\$1,421,635
2011-12	-\$2,404,780	\$167,289	-\$2,237,491
2012-13	-\$2,181,099	\$9,748	-\$2,171,351
2013-14	-\$2,171,351	\$234,383	-\$1,936,968
2014-15	\$1,936,968	\$273,693	-\$1,663,275
			\$(9,430,720)

This represents a 3.5% shift to local property taxpayers.

### **Total State Aid Trends**



General Aids are \$1.6 million less in 2014-15 than they were in 2009-10

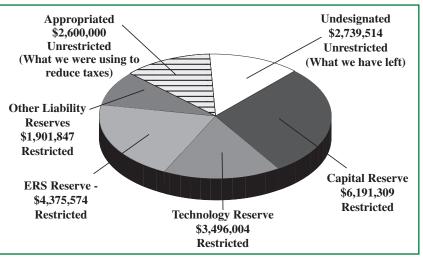
- General Aids, Net of Assessments
- **Expense-Based Aids**

Despite the State's efforts to restore funding in the adopted State budget, it is not enough to close the gap between the adopted property tax levy and the NYS tax cap formula.

## **Use of Fund Balance and Reserves**

Why doesn't the District use more fund balance and reserves to stay within the Tax Cap? The short answer is that we could do this, but we may not be able to do it for multiple budgets; when you dip into your savings account to pay for recurring expenses, your savings account will eventually run out. In addition, the vast majority of the District's reserves is legally restricted in use and may not be liquidated to pay for operating expenses.

Application of fund balance and reserves is already earmarked to pay for 5.4% of total spending and therefore reduces the tax levy by 7.7%.



# **Three-Part Budget Information**

## Proposed Budget 2014-15

## **Program Component**

\$56,258,431 or 80.52% 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.

<b>Function or Account</b>	2013-14	2014-15	Increase/Decrease
Legal Services	\$70,375	\$72,632	3.21%
Instruction	35,305,208	36,117,473	2.30%
Other Distr. Transportation	170,847	189,930	11.17%
Contract Transportation	3,067,772	3,171,731	3.39%
Community Services	2,000	2,000	0.00%
Employee Benefits	15,450,659	16,574,665	7.27%
Interfund Transfers	111,500	130,000	16.59%
TOTAL	\$54,178,361	\$56,258,431	3.84%

## **Capital Component**

\$6,324,785 or 9.05% 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.

<b>Function or Account</b>	2013-14	2014-15	Increase/Decrease
Operation of Plant	\$2,938,022	\$2,897,148	-1.39%
Maintenance of Plant	765,653	933,150	21.88%
Employee Benefits	1,180,936	1,145,981	-2.96%
Debt Service	2,220,350	1,188,506	-46.47%
Transfer to Capital Fund	_	160,000	100.00%
TOTAL	\$7,104,961	\$6,324,785	-10.98%

## **Administrative Component**

\$7,285,580 or 10.43% of budget

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

<b>Function or Account</b>	2013-14	2014-15	Increase/Decrease
Board of Education	\$ 73,939	\$75,048	1.50%
Central Administration	245,058	254,468	3.84%
Finance	873,605	976,728	11.80%
Legal Services	70,375	72,632	3.21%
Personnel	138,758	143,308	3.28%
Records Management	27,000	24,859	-7.93%
Public Information	87,980	87,099	-1.00%
Maintenance of Plant	107,027	106,109	-0.86%
Other Central Services	453,449	459,046	1.23%
Other Special Items	888,280	889,899	0.18%
Curriculum Development and Supervision	200,914	202,150	0.62%
Supervision Reg. School	1,869,225	1,754,721	-6.13%
Research and Evaluation	278,493	267,129	-4.08%
Teaching	121,465	120,768	-0.57%
Employee Benefits	1,768,986	1,851,616	4.67%
TOTAL	\$7,204,554	\$7,285,580	1.12%
TOTAL			
THREE-PART BUDGET	\$68,487,876	\$69,868,796	2.02%

#### **BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION**

Voters will elect three members to the Board of Education. There are three candidates, whose names will appear on the ballot in the following order: Marv Sachs, Julene Gilbert and Larry Davis. Voters may also write in names.

### **PROPOSITION #1**

### Capital Reserve Fund (General) Withdrawal

Approval of this proposition would not increase the current budget or tax rate. This proposition would authorize the withdrawal of \$1,500,000 for capital projects to include: reconstruction and renovation of the high school kitchen, including the acquisition of equipment and modifications and renovations to interior classroom space, physical education space, and television studio at Brighton High School; acquisition and installation of commercial equipment for the Twelve Corners Middle School kitchen; and fire safety upgrades and renovations at the concession stand behind Brighton High School.

### **PROPOSITION #2**

### Capital Reserve Fund (Technology) Withdrawal

Approval of this proposition would not increase the current budget or tax rate. This proposition would authorize the transfer of \$500,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund (Technology) to the District's General Operating Fund and to expend this sum from the District's General Operating Fund for computer-related equipment and software in accordance with the purposes set forth in the authorizing resolution establishing this fund.

#### **PROPOSITION #3**

#### **Bus Purchase Reserve (Authorization to Establish Capital Reserve)**

Approval of this proposition would not increase the current budget or tax rate. This proposition would create a Bus Purchase Reserve Fund to purchase school buses in the future. The purpose of creating a bus purchase reserve is to plan for future needs of the district as we continue to explore regional busing partnerships. The ultimate amount to be deposited over the existence of the fund shall be \$5,000,000. The term of the fund shall commence on May 21, 2014 and end on June 30, 2024. Money to be deposited into the fund shall be obtained from general revenues or unexpended surpluses of the district. Any expenditure of money held in the fund to purchase buses shall require the prior authorization of the voters of the District with respect to the amount and purpose of the expenditure.



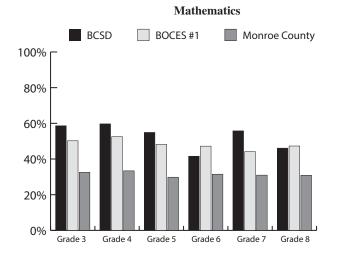
May 20, 2014

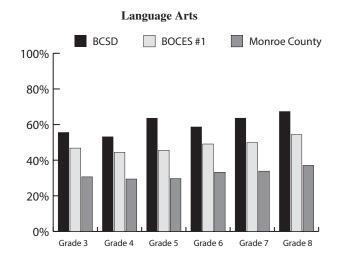
7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Brighton High School, Lower Level
1150 Winton Road South



# **Educational Quality**

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





### **Integrated Algebra Regents**

Number Tested 317	BCSD	BOCES #1	Monroe County
% of tested scoring 65%-100%		95%	92%
% of tested scoring 85%-100%	56%	51%	44%

**English Comprehensive Regents** 

Number Tested 299	BCSD	BOCES #1	Monroe County
% of tested scoring 65%-100%	92%	94%	90%
% of tested scoring 85%-100%	52%	55%	44%

<sup>\*</sup> The district data included herein is verified in the New York State repository.

### **Advanced Placement Results**

Advanced Placement courses are offered in several academic areas including Art History, Biology, Calculus, Chemistry, Computer Science, Economics, English Language & Composition, English Literature & Composition, European History, Environmental Science, French, German, Physics, Political Science, Psychology, Spanish, Statistics, Studio Art, U.S. History, U.S. Government and Politics, World History, and Music Theory. 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
2009	458	1,132	88%
2010	437	1,046	87%
2011	416	1,040	89%
2012	438	1,016	88%
2013	420	992	87%

## **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 2014 with 281 students has one National Merit Scholarship Finalist, 12 National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalists, and 23 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.

# **Educational Quality**

#### **SAT**

The SAT is a standardized test used by many colleges during the college admission process. In 2006, The College Board changed the format of the SAT exam. The SAT Reasoning Test assesses students' knowledge in the areas of reading, writing, mathematics, and critical thinking. Scores range from 200 to 800 on each section. Brighton students continually score above the New York State and national averages.

### **Critical Reading**

	Brighton	NYS	National
2009	588	485	499
2010	602	485	500
2011	597	485	497
2012	609	483	496
2013	588	485	496

#### Math

	Brighton	NYS	National
2009	612	502	514
2010	626	499	515
2011	612	499	514
2012	621	500	514
2013	598	501	514

### Writing

	Brighton	NYS	National
2009	578	478	492
2010	597	476	491
2011	594	476	489
2012	588	475	488
2013	576	477	488

#### **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 2013, the national composite score was 20.9, and the NYS composite was 23.4.

Class	Brighton	Composite National Scores	State
2009	26.8	21.1	23.1
2010	27.0	21.0	23.3
2011	27.0	21.1	23.4
2012	28.0	21.1	23.3
2013	27.6	20.9	23.4

# 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 a foreign language, Math A and Math B, or Math A and Algebra 2 and Trigonometry, and an additional science course. Students entering grade nine in September 2009 and thereafter must successfully complete Math A or Integrated Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra 2 and Trigonometry.

Regents Diplomas		Regents Diplomas with Advanced Distinction	
2008-09	96%	2008-09	82%
2009-10	95%	2009-10	78%
2010-11	95%	2010-11	76%
2011-12	98%	2011-12	78%
2012-13	98%	2012-13	71%

# **Educational Quality**

#### **A Well-Rounded Education**

- In 2014, for the fifth consecutive year, Brighton has been 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 2,900 students participate in performing and visual arts. Over 1,600 students participate in the grade 4-12 instrumental program, which includes multiple grade levels of band, orchestra, jazz ensembles, chamber groups, and instrumental lessons. 190 Brighton students were selected to participate in honor ensembles in NYSSMA Conference All-State, NYSSMA Area All-State, MCSMA All-County, NAfME All-Eastern Conference, Hochstein Youth Orchestra, and Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra.
- There have been 390 student opportunities for the cast, crew or pit in the 2013-14 performances of *Candide*, *Tarzan*, *Anything Goes*, and *Spamalot*.
- There are over 1,470 student roster slots on Brighton's 79 interscholastic athletic teams.

- There are over 85 clubs and a variety of academic competitions at French Road and the middle and high schools.
- There are approximately 400 high school students enrolled in visual arts electives; 35 BHS/TCMS visual arts students have been recognized in local and regional art exhibitions and contests.
- The 2013 Crossroads Yearbook earned a First Place Award in the American Scholastic Press Association's annual yearbook competition.
- The 2013 Galaxy Magazine has been recognized by The American Scholastic Press Association and the Columbia Scholastic Press Association for First Place with Special Merit and Gold Medal status, respectively.
- The 2013 student newspaper, Trapezoid earned top honors, Gold Award for Best All-Around New York State Publication/ Newspaper by Empire State Scholastic Press Association.

### **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 Model (AIM) for high school students to improve success through hands-on learning, community service, and counseling
- BHS Achievement Centered Education (ACE) Program
- BHS Giving Opportunity for Alternative Learning (GOAL)
  Program
- TCMS Flex Model (provides more teacher contact time with students)

- Literacy and math coaching support
- Non-mandated AIS support
- EMCC Course Opportunities including Auto Services, Cisco Networking Academy, Tech. Ed. Pre-Engineering, Criminal Justice, Early Childhood Education, among others.
- Extended studies opportunities for all students including independent studies, enriched academic courses, and dual credit courses through MCC and Syracuse University.

#### Where is the Class of 2013?

85% of the students in the Class of 2013 planned to continue their education at 4- or 2-year colleges. Brighton students enrolled in more than 107 different post- secondary institutions. Fifteen percent of Brighton students had other plans including employment, military and travel.



# **School District Budget Notice**

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2013-14 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2014-15 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2014-15 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$68,487,876	\$69,868,796	\$68,306,775
Increase/Decrease for the 2013-14 School Year		\$1,380,920	(\$181,101)
Percentage Increase/(Decrease) in Proposed Budget		2.02%	(0.26%)
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.46%	
Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Including Levy to Support Library Debt, if applicable	\$47,333,782	\$48,895,803	\$47,333,782
	1		
Total Permissible Exclusions	\$627,095	\$0	
A. Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Not</u> Including Levy for Permissible Exclusions or Levy to Support Library Debt	\$46,706,687	\$48,895,803	
B. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Not</u> Including Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$47,105,034	\$48,188,401	
Difference: A - B (Positive Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)	(\$398,347)	\$707,402	
Administrative Component	\$7,204,554	\$7,285,580	\$7,122,700
Program Component	\$54,178,361	\$56,258,431	\$55,000,690
Capital Component	\$7,104,961	\$6,324,785	\$6,183,385

<sup>\*</sup> The contingency budget was 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 contingency budget will be determined by the Board of Education.

List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount:

Note: Propositions 1 and 2 proposed with the 2014-15 Budget are entirely funded by voter authorized reserve funds and do not impact the proposed property tax levy or school tax levy limit.

Proposition 3 is to establish a bus purchase reserve, only.

Description	Amount
Proposition 1: Capital Reserve Fund (General) Withdrawal	\$1,500,000
Proposition 2: Capital Reserve Fund (Technology) Withdrawal	\$500,000
Proposition 3: Establish Capital Reserve Fund (Bus Purchase)	\$0

## **Budget Impact on Tax Levy Increases**

# Tax Rate Per \$1,000 Assessed Valuation for the towns of Brighton and Pittsford

Actual 2013-14	Estimated 2014-15	Difference	
\$25.93	\$26.49*	\$0.56	2.15%

\*This is the rate per \$1,000 assessed value. The tax bill for a home in Brighton/Pittsford valued at \$200,000 is \$5,187 this year. The estimated tax bill on this home under the proposed 2014-15 budget is \$5,298, a \$111.00 or 2.15% increase.

## **Basic STAR Exemption Impact**

Budget Proposed for the 2014-15 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Tax Savings<sup>1</sup> \$779.00

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2014-15 by the qualified voters of the Brighton Central School District, Monroe County, New York, will be held at Brighton High School in said district on Tuesday, May 20, 2014, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. prevailing time in the Brighton High School, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

<sup>1</sup> The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by Section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law. Maximum STAR savings amount is determined by NYS Department of Taxation and Finance.

## **Board of Education Candidates for Three Seats**

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

## Marvin Sachs, 20 Chalet Circle (Resident 46 years)

Education: University of Rochester; B.S., M.A., Ed.D.

**Profession/Employment:** Retired Professor, National Technical Institute for the Deaf at Rochester Institute of Technology, Department of Science and Mathematics, 1969 - 2005; mathematics teacher, Rochester City School District 1964-1969

**Family:** Wife, Sora Sachs, Monroe BOCES #1 Board of Education representing Brighton; two children, Jonathan (BHS 1987); Eric (BHS 1992)

**School/Community Activities:** Member, Brighton Board of Education 1990 – present; President, 2005 –2009, 1995 – 1997; Vice President 1992-1995, 2004 -2005; Member, Brighton Teacher Center Policy Board 2002 – present;

Member, Math Evaluation Committee 2013-14, 2008-09; Member, Alumni Dean's Advisory Committee Warner School UR, Brighton PTSA, 1974- present

**Statement:** I am seeking reelection to the Brighton School Board because I believe in the instructional programs and dedicated personnel that are in place at this time. With all of the external pressures being placed on education today, Brighton is moving forward and focusing on our children. I promise to do my best to ensure this forward progress and focus continues.

## Julene Gilbert, 130 Runnymede Road (Resident 28 years)

**Education:** Graduate of Brighton High School; B.S. in Social Work, Ohio State University; M.S. in Education specializing in Special Education, Kean College of New Jersey

**Profession/Employment:** Former Director of Development, CURE Childhood Cancer Association Family: Husband, Barry; children, Daniel (BHS 2002), daughter-in-law, Molly; Cara (BHS 1999); Elissa (BHS 1996), son-in-law, Andrew, grandchildren, Ike and Lily

**School/Community Activities:** Member, Brighton Board of Education 2002 - present; Active Volunteer, Brighton Food Cupboard and Brighton Your Wardrobe; longtime PTSA member and volunteer in Brighton schools; former Co-Chair,

Brighton High School PTSA; 1997 recipient, PTSA Life Membership Award

**Statement:** It has been a distinct privilege to serve as a member of the Brighton Board of Education since 2002, working with fellow Board members, administrators, faculty, staff and parents to continue to maintain the standard of excellence for which our district is known. I am committed to working as a representative of our community and to being an advocate for all children to help each one develop academically, socially and emotionally to the best of their potential. If reelected, I will be honored to continue to serve our community.

## Laurence C. (Larry) Davis, 137 Glenhill Drive (Resident 42 years)

**Education:** Graduate of Brighton High School (1981); B.S. in Industrial Engineering and Management, Clarkson University; M.B.A. in Marketing & Organizational Management, Simon School of Business, University of Rochester

**Profession/Employment:** Director, Facilities, Real Estate & Supply Management, Paychex, Inc.

Family: Wife, Shelley; children, Zachary (BHS 2004), Shannon (BHS 2009), Tristan, BHS (2013)

**School/Community Activities:** Member, Brighton Board of Education 2011 – present; Member, Full-Day K Review Committee; Secretary, Brighton Little League; Former Warden, St. Thomas Episcopal Church; Representative, Brighton Parks & Recreation Citizens' Advisory Committee; Former Leader, Cub Scout Pack; Former Coach, Little League

Baseball; Past Volunteer, Brighton Senior Bash; BCSD Superintendent Search Committee, TCMS Activity Nights, Outdoor Education

**Statement:** My first term on the BCSD school board has been a tremendous learning experience, and I expect to apply what I learned during my "rookie" term to a second term. As a K-12 graduate of Brighton myself, I know the high standards that are placed on our school system by the families in our community. I chose to run for a second term so I could continue to work with the administration and the other school board members as we face critical decisions during the upcoming term. There will be continuing financial challenges, as well as numerous state mandates that must be understood, discussed, and debated to make sure they are consistent with our "Brighton Believes" credo.



2035 Monroe Ave., Rochester, NY 14618 (585) 242-5200 www.bcsd.org

Superintendent

Kevin C. McGowan, Ed.D.

Newsletter Editor Jill Vigdor Feldman Non Profit Organization U. S. Postage P A I D Rochester, New York Permit No. 929

# **Voting Information**

#### **Annual Budget Hearing**

Tuesday, May 13, 2014, 7:00 p.m., Brighton Administrative Building, 2035 Monroe Avenue. Televised on Cable 12.

#### When and Where to Vote

Tuesday, May 20, 2014, 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m., Brighton High School, Lower Level, 1150 Winton Road South. Handicapped accessible.

#### **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 13, 2014, at 4:30 p.m. if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or on or prior to May 19, 2014, at 4:30 p.m. if the ballot is to be picked up by the voter. For information, call Barbara Morlock, District Clerk, at 242-5200 ext. 5080, visit her at 2035 Monroe Avenue or e-mail Barbara\_Morlock@bcsd.org. Completed absentee ballots must be received by 5:00 p.m. on the date of the school budget vote, May 20.

#### **Additional Information**

- Proposed budget details are available in the Brighton Memorial Library and all school offices, including the District Business Office, 2035 Monroe Avenue. All budget documents are also posted online at www.bcsd.org, go to the "BCSD Budget Information" quick link under Popular District Pages on the left side of the homepage.
- Call Lou Alaimo, Assistant Superintendent for Administration, at 242-5200 ext. 5088 if you have budget questions.
- A forty-four minute video of the Executive Budget Proposal may be viewed by visiting the district webpage at www.bcsd.org on the left side of the homepage under "District Information," "Events Around the District in Video," and will also be broadcast on Brighton Cable 12 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.

Saturdays 7:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. **BRIGHTON** Sundays 7:00 a.m., 7:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m.



May 20, 2014

