

BRIGHTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Preliminary Budget Discussion

2015-16



Community Forum Discussion
March 10, 2015

Preliminary Budget and Impact on Tax Levy

	2015-16	\$ Change	% Change
A) Total Preliminary Budget Amount	\$72,561,542	\$2,692,746	3.85%
B) Total Revenues Other Than Real Property Taxes (Excluding Tax Levy)	17,894,494	746,374	4.4%
C) Amount of Fund Balance Used for Levy of Tax	3,915,125	90,252	2.4%
D) Non-Property Tax Revenues (B+C)	\$21,809,619	\$836,626	
E) Total Real Property Tax Levy to be Raised for School Purposes (A-D)	\$50,751,923		
2014-15 Real Property Tax Levy	\$48,895,803		
% Increase in Real Property Tax Levy			3.80%

Impact of the State Budgets

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 a 11.4% shift to local property taxpayers.

Enacted State Budget/School Year	Current Year Aid	Full Phase-in Level	Estimated Full Phase-In Year
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	\$13,517,351	2016-17

School Year	GEA	GEA Restoration	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 3.4% shift to local property taxpayers

GEA:

The Gap Elimination Adjustment is a tool used by the State to withhold money due to public school districts. The 2014-15 adopted budget gives Brighton back only \$273,693 of this amount. This allowed us to reduce the local property tax burden by 0.6%.

Preliminary Tax Levy Limit Requiring Simple Majority

Prior Year Tax Levy		\$48,895,803
Tax Base Growth Factor (1)	X	1.0068
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		\$49,228,294
Add: Prior Year Pilots (2014-15)		\$460,993
Less: Prior Year Exemptions		
Capital Tax Levy		\$0
Court Orders		\$0
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Adjusted Prior Year Levy		\$49,689,287
Allowable Growth Factor (Lesser of CPI or 2%)	X	1.0162
Less: PILOTS Receivable (2014-15)		-\$507,941
Add: Allowable Carryover		\$0
Add: Current Year Capital Tax Levy		\$0
Add: Pension Exclusion		\$0
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Tax Levy Limit	\$	49,986,313
% Change from Prior Year Tax Levy		2.23%

Impact of Preliminary Budget on Taxes

1% Increase in Property Tax	\$489,000
1% increase in Spending	\$700,000

GAP ANALYSIS

Target Change in Tax Levy	Allowable Change in Spending	Impact on Preliminary Budget:
		Additional Revenue/ (Reductions Required)
0% Change in Tax Levy	1.20%	(\$1,856,120)
1% Increase in Levy	1.9%	(\$1,367,162)
2.23% Increase in Levy	2.8%	(\$765,744)
3% Increase in Levy	3.3%	(\$389,246)
4% Increase in Levy	4.0%	\$99,712

Challenges

FUNDING

GEA

FOUNDATION AID

LOCAL CONTROL/TAX POLICY

STAR AND THE CAP

BUDGET PLANNING

TEACHER EVALUATION

- **We are calling for an end to the withholding of state aid that is due to you, local taxpayers.** Local property taxes are approximately 15% higher than they could be, because the state is withholding money that you are due. The state did not pay Brighton over \$7 million in state aid due last year alone. This has been going on for quite some time and enough is enough. We will be forced to cut programs and services if this continues.
- **We are calling for an end to the games being played with local control and property tax laws.** The Governor is proposing that you pay your STAR rebate upfront and then get it back later only if your district stays within the property tax cap. Although it is always our goal to do so, we think it is entirely wrong that local control is being reduced by a state government that is not even providing you with the aid that you are due. It seems completely unreasonable that you would be asked to pay STAR upfront. Again, we will be forced to cut programs and services if this continues.
- **We are calling for an end to the use of standardized test scores in the evaluation of teachers.** The Governor is proposing a significant increase in their role and we think any use of the test in this way is misguided and inappropriate. Testing has value as one element in program and school evaluation. It is just one small measure of student growth. Using tests in this fashion could be harmful to students by exacerbating a culture focused on one small measure in a much larger picture of student growth. We also believe that the data is not yet reliable or accurate enough for this to be a fair measure of individual growth when used alone. Again, assessment has value, but only when used with many other forms of data to inform decision making.

Current Status of 2015-16 Preliminary Budget

	2015-16	Possible Adjustments	2015-16 Updated
A) Total Preliminary Budget Amount	\$72,561,542	(724,467)	\$71,837,075
% Change in Budget	3.85%		2.82%
B) Total Revenues Other Than Real Property Taxes (Excluding Tax Levy)	17,894,494	41,277	17,935,771
C) Amount of Fund Balance Used for Levy of Tax	3,915,125		3,915,125
D) Non-Property Tax Revenues (B+C)	21,809,619		21,850,896
E) Total Real Property Tax Levy to be Raised for School Purposes (A-D)	\$50,751,923	(765,744)	\$49,986,179
2014-15 Real Property Tax Levy	\$48,895,803		\$48,895,803
% Increase in Real Property Tax Levy	3.80%		2.23%
GAP assuming tax levy limit of 2.23%			\$ 0

Gap Reduction Strategies

- Deferring Certain New Initiatives
 - Recommendation of proposals to defer:
 - Connect 8 Proposal at TCMS
 - Addition of Social Worker at FRES
 - Recommendation of NI proposals impacting personnel costs funded in prelim budget:
 - Social Studies Teacher at TCMS to allow for AIS by ELA teachers.
 - Addition of Resource Room at FRES to expand continue of programs.
 - Reinstatement of modified sports based on student interest.
- Adjust K-5 class sizes within parameters established.
- Defer certain equipment requests
- Continue to assess risk provisions throughout budget
- Be more aggressive budgeting for revenues that are subject to volatility

Impact on Class Size

Teaching (K - 5)	2014-15			2015-16			Analysis	
	F.T.E.	Enroll	Ratio	F.T.E.	Enroll	Ratio	+1 tchr	-1 tchr
Kindergarten AM	6	106	17.7	6	93	15.50	13.3	18.6
Kindergarten PM	6	81	13.5	6	93	15.50	13.3	18.6
Grade 1	12	251	20.9	12	229	19.06	17.6	20.8
Grade 2	12	234	19.5	12	269	22.39	20.7	24.4
Grade 3	14	298	21.3	12	248	20.66	19.1	22.5
Grade 4	13	292	22.5	13	298	22.95	21.3	24.9
Grade 5	12	274	22.8	13	305	23.42	21.8	25.4
Total Gen Ed Tchrs	69	1,536		68	1,534			

Next Steps

- 3/17-Hearing and Executive Budget Proposal
- 3/24-Amendments

4/1 – State Budget Deadline

- 4/14-Hearing
 - 4/24-Final BOE Budget Adoption
 - 5/12-Budget Hearing
 - 5/19-Budget Vote and BOE Election at BHS
- PTSA Meeting Budget Reviews:
 - 3/17 BHS 12:00-1:00
 - 3/20 CRPS 12:30-1:30 (BOE room)
 - 3/25 TCMS 12:00-1:00
 - 3/26 FRES 12:30-1:30