

The 2009-10 Proposed Budget

Budget, Board of Education Election and Propositions

BUDGET

The budget proposition would authorize the appropriation of \$60,547,345 to meet estimated school district expenditures for the 2009-10 school year. *Approval of the budget would result in an estimated 1.3% increase in the tax rate.*

BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION

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

PROPOSITION #1

Capital Reserve Fund (General)

This proposition authorizes the creation of a new Capital Reserve Fund to finance, in whole or in part, construction and/or reconstruction of district buildings and certain building alterations. The ultimate amount to be deposited over time in the fund shall be \$10,000,000. The term of the Fund shall commence on June 1, 2009 and shall end on June 30, 2015. The money to be deposited in the Fund shall be obtained from general fund surplus of the District and state aid received by the District for capital expenditures funded in whole or in part from the Fund. *Annual, separate voter authorization is required to expend money from this reserve account.*

PROPOSITION #2

Capital Reserve Fund (General) Withdrawal

This proposition would authorize the withdrawal of \$1,440,000 for capital improvements to include: color coat and re-stripe track, replace generator and upgrade emergency circuit, replace bus loop, replace intercom system, replace fence fabric, new athletic storage building, replace irrigation system, retro fit pool drain system at Brighton High School; replace boiler and operating control, replace 2nd floor and gym roof at Central Office; replace auditorium stage roof at Twelve Corners Middle School; and upgrade the District's energy management system. *Approval of this proposition would not increase the budget or tax rate.*

PROPOSITION #3

Capital Reserve Fund (Technology)

This proposition authorizes the creation of a new Capital Reserve Fund (Technology) to finance in whole or in part, the purchase of equipment, including computer equipment and software, and the required wiring as well as training and staff development in the use of the computer equipment. The ultimate amount to be deposited over time in the Fund shall be \$5,000,000. The term of the Fund shall commence on June 1, 2009 and end on June 30, 2015. The money to be deposited in the Fund shall be obtained from general fund surplus of the District and state aid received by the District for capital expenditures funded in whole or in part from the Fund. *Annual, separate voter authorization is required to expend money from this reserve account.*

PROPOSITION #4

Capital Reserve Fund (Technology) Withdrawal

This proposition would authorize the transfer of \$400,000 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, and the required wiring as well as training and staff development in accordance with the purposes set forth in the authorizing resolution establishing this Fund. *Approval of this proposition would not increase the budget or tax rate.*



May 19, 2009

**TIME TO
VOTE!**

**7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Brighton High School, Lower Level, Room 163
1150 Winton Road South**

A Message from The Board of Education

May 1, 2009

Dear Brighton School District Resident,

This newsletter provides information about the 2009-10 Brighton School District Budget, as recommended by Dr. Henry J. Peris, Interim Superintendent of Schools, and adopted by the Board of Education.

The proposed budget represents the school district's forecast of appropriations and revenues. It is based on an educational plan that is designed to support and maintain the high-quality education and excellence during this fiscally challenging time, without compromising the future of Brighton Schools. The Brighton Central School District has maintained a strong commitment to the educational development of the whole child. The District's efforts have been supported generously by the Brighton community, and in turn our Brighton school graduates have made significant contributions to the community, the region and our nation. Therefore it is understandable that there may be concern that the economic downturn will have an impact on the quality of the district's programs and services for students. Dr. Peris has worked with the Board of Education, the school leadership team, and community planning teams to examine the implication of the economic crisis and what it demands of us as a district. We worked hard to preserve the instructional core and avoid decisions that will cause lasting damage to the quality of our schools. These difficult fiscal times in our nation, state, and city have required us to limit the number of program enhancements the school district can initiate while continuing to maintain Brighton's excellent educational program and services.

The proposed budget continues the implementation of the District's long-range facility maintenance and improvement plan through the Capital Reserve Fund, without an increase in the tax rate, and continues support for the use of information technology in the instructional learning process through a Technology Reserve Fund created by the Board of Education and the community in 1994, without an increase in tax rate. Please refer to the additional information on Reserve Funds found in this newsletter.

The proposals for your consideration on Tuesday, May 19 are as follows:

- The 2009-10 school year budget, which reflects a 3.0 % increase in operating expenditures, which would result in an estimated 1.3% increase in the tax rate.
- The election of two members to the Board of Education.
- **Propositions 1 and 2**, which would create a new Capital Reserve Fund (General) and authorize expenditures for capital projects during 2009-10. *Approval of Propositions 1 and 2 would not affect the budget or increase the tax rate.*
- **Propositions 3 and 4**, which would create a new Capital Reserve Fund (Technology) and authorize expenditures for technology improvements during 2009-10. *Approval of Propositions 3 and 4 would not affect the budget or increase the tax rate.*

In this newsletter, you will find details about all of these proposals and the estimated taxes and state aid needed to support the 2009-10 budget. Please feel free to call any member of the Board of Education or Dr. Peris if you have any questions.

Please plan to vote on Tuesday, May 19 from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Brighton High School, 1150 Winton Road South. Voting details are on the back cover. Your participation is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Brighton Board of Education

Marvin C. Sachs, President (473-9731)

Martha Sciremammano, Vice President (271-8621)

Rome Celli (732-1767)

Julene Gilbert (442-5491)

Mark Kokanovich (461-0667)

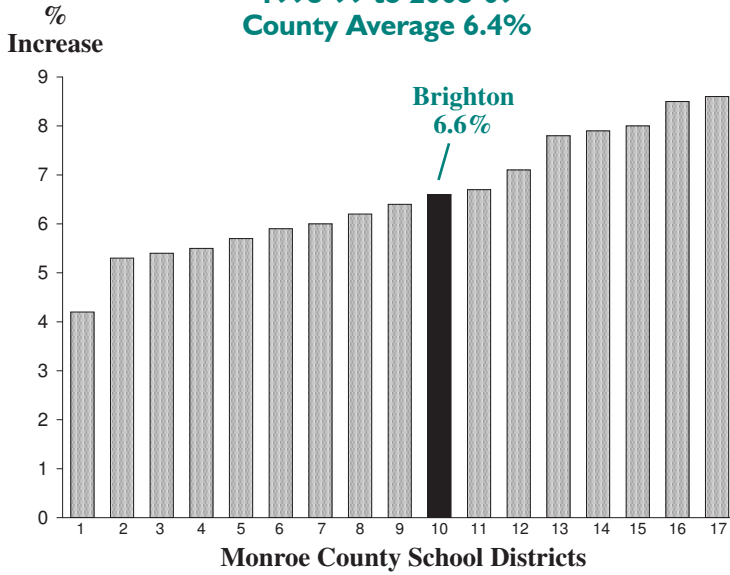
Linda Morrison (271-3574)

Morton Stein (442-6828)

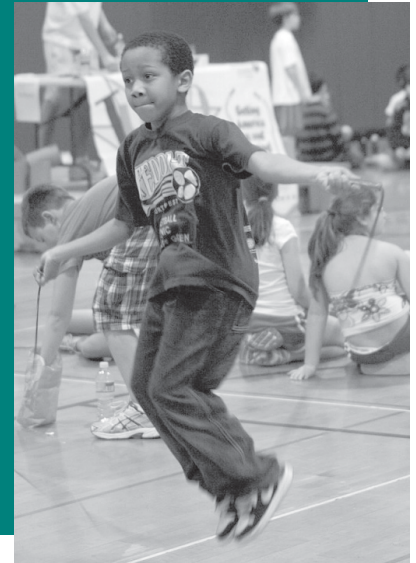
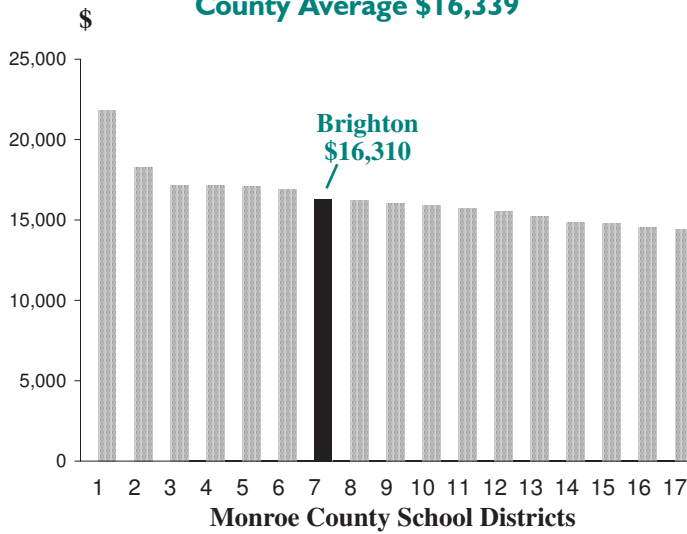


Monroe County Schools Budget Comparisons

Average Annual Budget Increases
1998-99 to 2008-09
County Average 6.4%

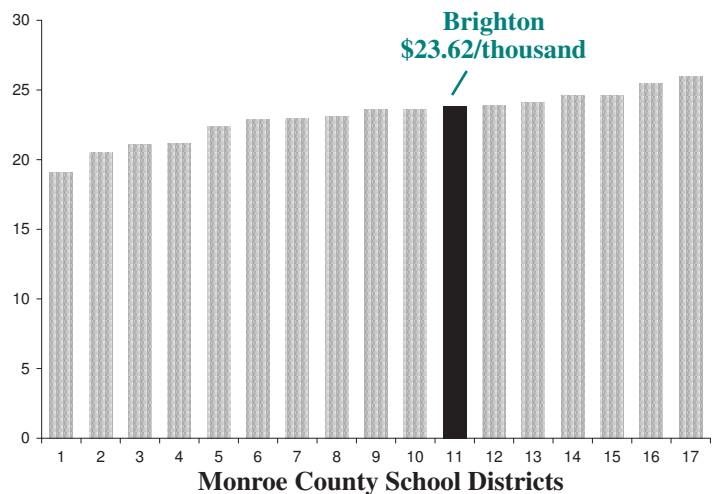


Cost Per Pupil
2008-09
County Average \$16,339



\$ per thousand

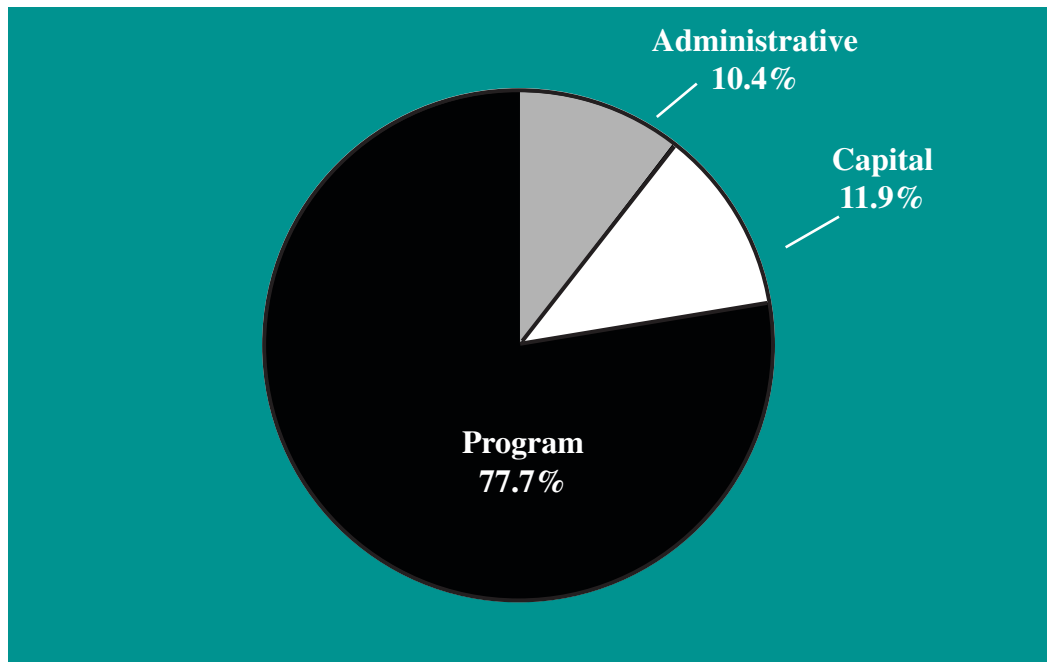
True Value Tax Rate
2008-09
County Average \$23.10/thousand



Three Part Budget Information

Proposed Budget 2009-10

New York State law requires that all public school districts present proposed budgets in a three-part format, which includes administrative, program, and capital expenditure components. Our goal in presenting proposed expenditures in this format is to make year-to-year comparisons easier to understand.



Program Component

\$47,038,810 or 77.7% 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 services, library, co-curricular activities, and athletics are also included in this component.

Function or Account	2008-09	2009-10	Increase/(Decrease)
Legal Services	\$ 52,148	\$ 51,500	-1.2%
Instruction	31,018,127	32,073,034	3.4%
Other Distr. Transportation	143,604	148,426	3.4%
Contract Transportation	2,889,243	2,922,498	1.2%
Community Services	4,000	2,000	-50.0%
Employee Benefits	11,088,945	11,731,352	5.8%
Interfund Transfers	110,000	110,000	0.0%
TOTAL	\$45,306,067	\$47,038,810	3.8%

Capital Component

\$7,188,708 or 11.9% 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	2008-09	2009-10	Increase/(Decrease)
Operation of Plant	\$ 2,893,704	\$ 3,001,627	3.7%
Maintenance of Plant	1,012,864	986,825	-2.6%
Employee Benefits	861,175	902,177	4.8%
Debt Service	2,315,850	2,298,079	-0.8%
TOTAL	\$7,083,593	\$7,188,708	1.5%

Administrative Component

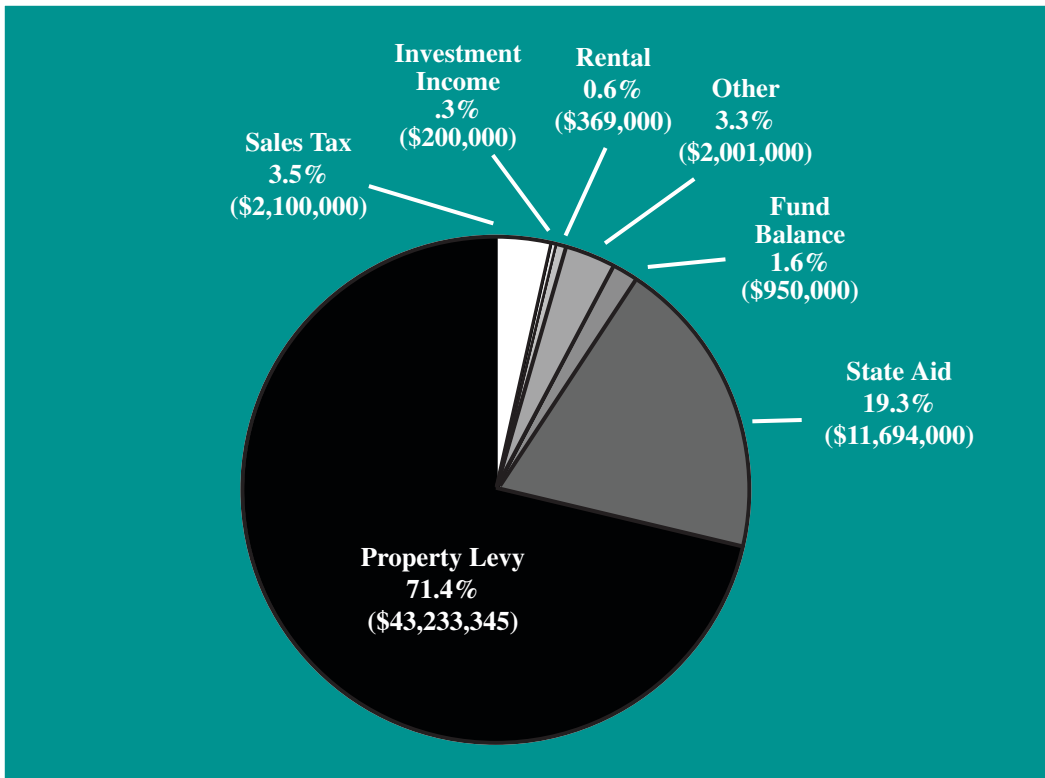
\$6,319,827 or 10.4% of budget

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

Function or Account	2008-09	2009-10	Increase/(Decrease)
Board of Education	\$ 55,969	\$ 56,972	1.8%
Central Administration	227,159	231,899	2.1%
Finance	759,956	836,945	10.1%
Legal Services	52,148	51,500	-1.2%
Personnel	152,330	163,131	7.1%
Records Management	23,197	24,587	6.0%
Public Information	95,400	76,462	-20.0%
Other Central Services	391,323	402,225	2.8%
Other Special Items	817,353	870,797	6.5%
Curriculum Development and Supervision	217,312	226,446	4.2%
Supervision Regular School	2,015,228	1,828,239	-9.3%
Research and Evaluation	248,698	255,667	2.8%
Employee Benefits	1,320,068	1,294,957	-2.0%
TOTAL	\$6,376,141	6,319,827	-.9%
TOTAL THREE PART BUDGET	\$58,765,801	\$60,547,345	3.0%

Recommended Revenue

Brighton Central School District's revenue estimates include state aid based upon a conservative assessment of the approved New York State adopted budget. The State adopted budget includes federal stabilization funds that are included in our revenue estimates.

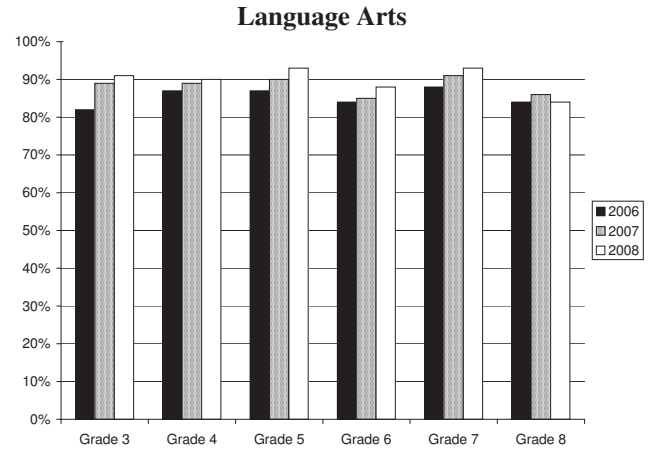
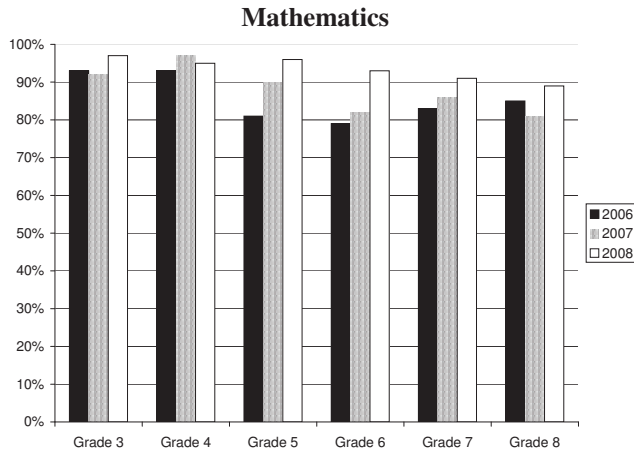


Educational Quality

Grades 3-8 Mathematics and English Language Arts

Since 2006, NYS has mandated that all students in grades 3-8 take the State Mathematics and English Language Arts exams. Prior to this time, only students in grades 4 and 8 were tested, and the tests were significantly different.

Percentage meeting or exceeding the NYS Standards



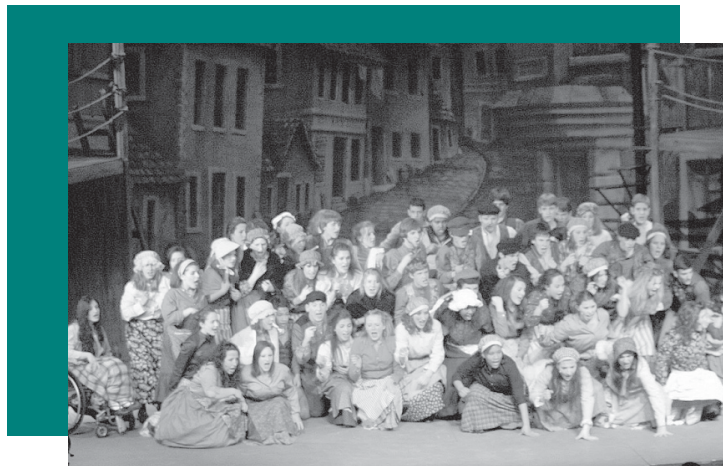
Advanced Placement Results

Advanced Placement courses are offered in several academic areas including Biology, Calculus, Chemistry, Computer Science, English Language & Composition, English Literature & Composition, European History, Environmental Science, French, German, Physics, Political Science, Psychology, Russian, Spanish, Statistics, 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.

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
# of students participating	416	432	441	439	433
# of exams taken	904	952	1031	1013	974
% receiving a score of 3 or better	79%	81%	82%	86%	83%

Dual Credit Programs

Students at BHS take dual credit courses through Monroe Community College and Syracuse University. Brighton provides the option for college level courses in lieu of or in addition to Advanced Placement courses. Last year, 15 students took SUPA (Syracuse University Project Advance) Economics and 31 took SUPA Statistics. SUPA courses are taught by Brighton faculty members who are also Syracuse University Adjunct Instructors. In addition, 10 students took Calculus III and 10 students took Photography as dual credit courses through MCC.



Educational Quality

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 2008 with 310 students had four National Merit Scholarship winners, seven Finalists, eight Semi-Finalists and twenty-three Commended Students.



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 and added a writing component. 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			
Average SAT scores			
	BHS	NYS	National
2006	587	493	503
2007	595	491	502
2008	582	488	502

Mathematics			
Average SAT scores			
	BHS	NYS	National
2006	604	510	518
2007	610	505	515
2008	606	504	515

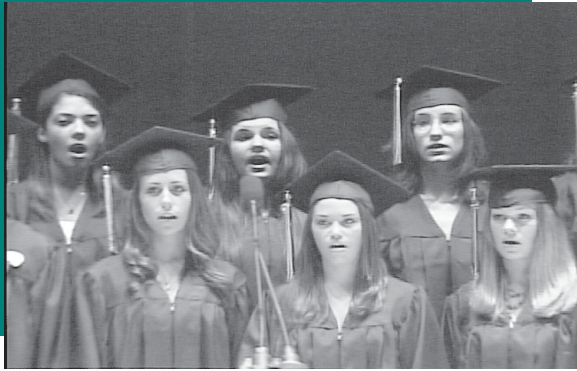
Writing			
Average SAT scores			
	BHS	NYS	National
2006	570	483	497
2007	578	482	494
2008	580	481	494

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 2008, the national composite was 21.1, and the NYS composite was 23.1. The composite score for Brighton's Class of 2008 was 26.8.

Average Composite Scores			
Year	Brighton	NYS	National
2004	24.9	22.3	20.9
2005	26.6	22.4	20.9
2006	26.2	22.6	21.1
2007	26.8	22.9	21.2
2008	26.8	23.1	21.1

Educational Quality



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 B, and in an additional science course.

	Class of 2006	Class of 2007	Class of 2008
Regents Diplomas	95%	94%	93%
Regents Diplomas with Advanced Distinction	78%	81%	78%

Where is the Class of 2008?

- Ninety-four percent of the students in the Class of 2008 planned to continue their education at 4-year or 2-year colleges.
- Six percent of Brighton students had other plans including employment, military service or travel.

Cost Efficiencies Strategies

Efforts to Control Costs and Minimize Impact on Taxpayers

The District continues to explore ways to control costs and minimize the impact on taxpayers.

Current cost containment measures used by the District include:

Employee Benefits

Self-insuring either cooperatively or individually for Workers' Compensation, liability and property insurance, dental and health insurance.

Negotiated a change in base plan and an increase in employee contribution.

Reserve Funds

The Brighton Central School District invested \$12 million in capital improvements over the past ten years through a Capital Reserve Fund without incurring additional debt.

The Brighton Central School District invested \$4.8 million in technology over the past ten years through a Technology Reserve Fund without incurring additional debt.

Reserves are funded through year-end surplus, interest earned on reserve fund balances, and with State aid received on prior year's expenditures from reserves. Capital Reserve Funds allow us to invest in our facilities on a yearly basis without having a large bond issue and incurring debt. Technology Reserve Funds allow us to invest in information technology on a yearly basis without increasing the budget or property tax levy or incurring debt.

Going Green

Using mandated green cleaning products, expanding existing recycling program, reducing the amount of paper, installing an automatic shut-off to District computers, lowering pool and hot water temperatures, and replacing inefficient light fixtures.

Partnerships and Grants

Self-insuring either cooperatively or individually for liability and property insurance.

Cooperating with other school districts to transport students to programs located out-of-district.

Purchasing services through BOCES.

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.

Cooperative Bidding

For the procurement of products and certain services that will exceed the maximum level allowed by law during the fiscal year.



Budget Information

Overall Budget Proposal

	Budget Adopted for the 2008-09 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2009-10 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2009-10 School Year*
Total budgeted amount	\$58,765,801	\$60,547,345	\$60,393,345
Increase (decrease) for the 2009-10 school year		\$1,781,544	\$1,627,544
Percentage increase (decrease) in each proposed budget		3.0%	2.8%
Change in the consumer price index		3.8%	
Resulting est. property tax levy for the 2009-10 school year		\$43,233,345	\$43,079,345
Administrative component	\$6,376,141	\$6,319,827	\$6,299,827
Program component	\$45,306,067	\$47,038,810	\$46,904,810
Capital component	\$7,083,593	\$7,188,708	\$7,188,708
<p>*Statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2009-10 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated.¹</p> <p>The Contingent Budget is lower than the proposed budget by an estimated amount we would reduce the budget for equipment and student supplies. The actual appropriation under a contingency budget would be determined by the Board of Education should this become necessary.</p>			

Basic STAR Exemption Impact

Estimated Basic STAR² Exemption Savings

	Budget Proposed for the 2009-10 School Year
Basic STAR Tax Savings	\$717.90

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2009-10 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 19, 2009 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.

¹ Provide a statement of assumptions made in estimating the contingency budget pursuant to section 2023 of the Education Law.

² The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by Section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

Budget Impact on Tax Levy Increases

Tax Rate Per \$1000 Assessed Valuation for the towns of Brighton and Pittsford

Actual 2008-09	Estimated 2009-10*	Difference	
\$23.62	\$23.93	\$0.31	1.3%

*This is the rate per \$1000 assessed value. The tax bill for a home in Brighton/Pittsford valued at \$205,000 is \$4,842 this year. The estimated tax bill on this home under the proposed 2009-10 budget is \$4,906, a \$64.00 or 1.3% increase.



TIME TO VOTE!

May 19, 2009

7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Brighton High School, Lower Level, Room 163
1150 Winton Road South

Board of Education Candidates for Two Seats

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

Mark Kokanovich, 391 Clover Hills Drive (Resident 15½ years)



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

Profession/Employment: Community volunteer; Previously in business in the metalworking machinery industry 1979 – 2001

Family: Wife, Jean Maess, Vice-President with Thomson-Reuters; two children, Kate, BHS 2005, Colgate University; Beth, BHS 2007, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service

School/Community Activities: Member, Brighton Board of Education February 2006 – present; Member, Monroe County School Boards Association’s Legislative Committee; Member, District Information Technology Committee; Member, District Policy Review Committee; Member and Vice-Chair, Town of Brighton Recreation, Parks, and Community Service Citizen’s Advisory Board 2002 – present; Co-founder and Board Member, Brighton Girls’ Youth Lacrosse Club 2001 – present; Board Member, Brighton Stormers Soccer Club 1999 - present; Recipient, New York State PTA Life Membership Award; Member, Brighton PTSA 1973 – current; Chair, James P. Wilmot Cancer Center Patient and Family Advisory Council 2006 – present; Volunteer, University of Rochester Medical Center 2004 – present.

STATEMENT: We are very fortunate to live in a community that places the highest priority and respect on the education of our young people. It has been an honor to serve the community as a member of our very dedicated and devoted Board of Education. I continue to have the passion, energy and time to devote to service as a Board member. My pledge is to continue to work tirelessly as part of a highly effective team dedicated to providing District leadership and decision-making that is in the best interest of all of our students. It would be a privilege to continue to serve the community in a prudent and responsible manner.

Martha Sciremammano, 18 Glenhill Drive (Resident 22 years)

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

Profession/Employment: Homemaker, community volunteer, bookseller, Barnes & Noble Children’s Department

Family: Husband, Frank, Professor of Engineering, RIT; two children, Joie, BHS 2001, B.A. and M.S. in Library Science, University of Maryland, College Park, research librarian, Navigant Consulting, Washington, D.C.; Frank, BHS 2005, Rochester Institute of Technology

School/Community Activities: Vice-President, Brighton Board of Education 2006 – present, Member, 2001 – present; Trustee, Brighton Education Fund 2000 – present; Member, Monroe County School Boards Association’s Information Exchange Committee; Member, District Policy Committee; Member, PTSA; Member, Shared Services Committee; Member, District Wellness Committee; Member, 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); Chair, Festival of Ideas (15 years); Recipient, New York State PTA Life Membership Award; Brighton Rotary Citizen of the Year 2002.



STATEMENT: It is an honor and privilege to serve as a member, and now Vice President, 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. As we continue to oversee our school district, we must be mindful of our uncertain and ever-changing world, balancing these factors with our commitment to the excellence that defines our Brighton School District. Our students must continue to receive the knowledge, tools, and opportunities they need to become all that they can be. To that end, I look forward to working with our new superintendent, our excellent staff, and my fellow Board members to ensure that the quality of our schools grows even stronger. 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.

Years ago, when my children first entered Council Rock School, I found myself an enthusiastic volunteer, jumping in to help with a variety of events and activities. I was honored to serve as a leader and officer in PTSA, and continue that connection still as Chair of the Festival of Ideas. It is that event each year that reinforces for me what a special community Brighton is. I still find myself an enthusiastic volunteer, and believe the history I have within our community helps me to understand its needs and make thoughtful decisions. I hope to continue that work as a member of the Board of Education. It is truly an honor to work on behalf of all our children.

Voting Information

Annual Budget Hearing

Tuesday, May 12, 2009, 7:00 p.m., Brighton Administration Building, 2035 Monroe Avenue. Televised on Cable 12.

When and Where to Vote

Tuesday, May 19, 2009, 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m., Brighton High School, 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 don't need to be registered!

Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots are available to qualified school district voters. An application for a ballot must first be completed. The absentee ballot application can be downloaded by using the link available on the District website, www.bcsd.org, or call Barbara Morlock, District Clerk, at 242-5080, visit her at 2035 Monroe Avenue or e-mail Barbara_Morlock@bcsd.org.

Additional Information

- Proposed budget details are available in all school offices, including the District Business Office, 2035 Monroe Avenue.
- Call 242-5089 if you have budget questions.
- A 48 minute video on the budget will be broadcast on Brighton Cable 12 on the following schedule:

Wednesday, May 6	10:00 a.m., 4:00 p.m.
Thursday, May 7	8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 4:30 p.m., 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 9	8:30 a.m., noon, 6:00 p.m., 9:00 p.m.
Sunday, May 10	10:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., 8:30 p.m.
Monday, May 11	7:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 8:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 12	10:00 a.m., 2:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 14	9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 9:00 p.m.
Friday, May 15	10:30 a.m., 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 16	10:00 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, May 17	8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 8:00 p.m.
Monday, May 18	7:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 19	8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m.



**TIME TO
VOTE!**

May 19, 2009



2035 Monroe Ave., Rochester, NY 14618
(585) 461-9670
www.bcsd.org

Interim Superintendent
Henry J. Peris

Newsletter Editor
Jill Vigdor Feldman

ECRWSS

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