



# BUDGET NEWS

## The 2012-13 Proposed Budget Budget, Board of Education Election and Propositions

### BUDGET

The budget proposition would authorize the appropriation of \$65,866,693 to meet estimated school district expenditures for the 2012-13 school year. *Approval of the budget would result in a 2.9% property tax levy and an estimated 2.4% increase in the tax rate.*

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 4.15% for Brighton Central School District (see page 8) as submitted to the State Comptroller.

### BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION

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

### PROPOSITION #1

#### Capital Reserve Fund (General) Withdrawal

This proposition would authorize the withdrawal of \$1,400,000 for capital projects to include: main entrance renovation at the Administration Building, lower gym floor replacement at Brighton High School, and window replacement at French Road Elementary School. *Approval of this proposition would not increase the proposed tax levy.*

### PROPOSITION #2

#### Capital Reserve Fund (Technology) Withdrawal

This proposition would authorize the transfer of \$425,000 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. *Approval of this proposition would not increase the proposed tax levy.*



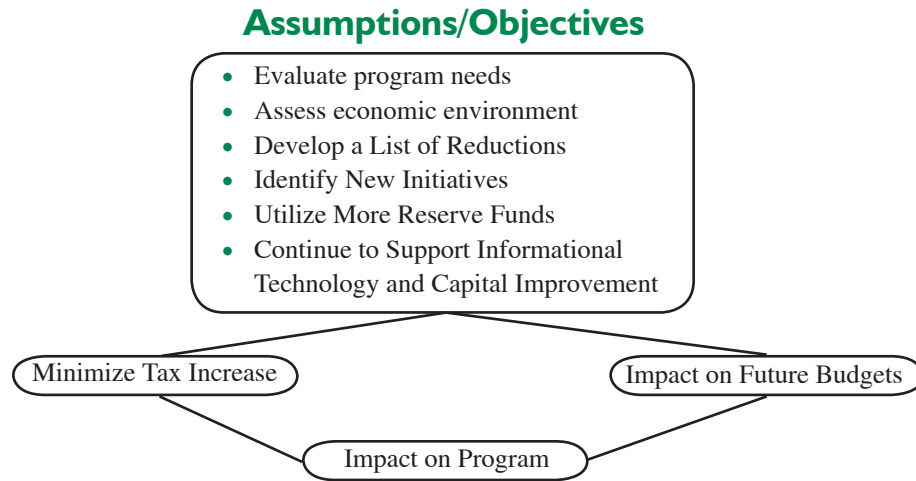
**TIME TO  
VOTE!**  
**May 15, 2012**

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

# Proposed Budget Reductions 2012-13

The preliminary budget presentation included a budget of \$66,610,864, a difference of \$3,050,573, which would have required a 4.8% increase in budget and a 6.8% increase in the property tax levy to maintain the same program and staffing levels as this year. A variety of ongoing factors have made the development of a draft budget proposal challenging. The process has focused on supporting excellence now and challenges yet to come.

Since September, Dr. McGowan and his instructional leadership team have been working with the Board and staff to reduce next year's preliminary projection of expenditures by reviewing every budget line. The District offered residents the opportunity to participate in a community budget survey and budget-development focus groups. The budget guidelines, assumptions, and community feedback have been integral to our planning and budget development. We have reduced expenditures by more than one million dollars. The proposed budget includes new initiatives costing approximately \$300,000. The proposed 2012-13 budget represents a 3.63% increase over the current year's budget with a projected tax rate increase of 2.4%.



## Program Support in the Proposed 2012-13 Budget

### Strengthen literacy initiatives at Council Rock Primary and French Road Elementary Schools

- Continue literacy coaching model in both buildings
- Addition of reading teachers at both buildings by reallocating FRES Teacher on Special Assignment funding

### Maintain commitment to program growth for all students at all levels

- Continue support for Extended Studies
- Continue the evolution of continuum of services
- Expand services provided in the Alternative Instructional Model (AIM) and Achievement Centered Education (ACE) program
- Maintain wide variety of electives at Brighton High School
- Continue to support teaching assistants to enhance foreign language program
- Reinstate library TA at TCMS
- Provide funding for "FLEX" period program at TCMS
- Provide funding for integrated co-teaching model at TCMS

### Maintain/reduce class sizes with the addition of 1.5 sections at Council Rock Primary School

#### Commit to providing connections for all students

- Continue to support visual and performing arts
- Continue support for more than 20 extracurricular clubs and activities reinstated during this budget year
- Provide ample opportunity for interscholastic competition and after school intramurals
- Continue support for the Family Support Center

<b>2011-12 School Budget</b>	<b>\$63,560,291</b>
<b>2012-13 Executive Budget</b>	<b>\$65,866,693</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$ 2,366,402 or 3.6%</b>
<b>Net Tax Levy</b>	<b>\$ 1,284,311 or 2.9%</b> <b>(~Tax Rate 2.4%)</b>

## Summary of Budget Changes by Location

Below is a summary by location of significant changes to programs and services recommended as part of the Executive Budget Proposal. For an impact analysis of recommended changes, please refer to the Executive Budget Proposal, March 13, 2012, on the District website, [www.bcsd.org](http://www.bcsd.org) (under *Popular District Pages*, click on the BCSD Budget Information quick link).

### Brighton High School

Adds support for the ACE and AIM programs (+1.5 positions)	\$40,000
Adjusts staff based on students' needs reducing two interpreters and a note taker position	(\$51,800)
Adjusts staff for special education co-taught classrooms to 8 or 9 students per class (-0.6 teacher)	(\$30,000)
Restructures teaching assistant allocations to special education classrooms (-5.0 teaching assistants)	(\$72,000)
Reduces conference funding from building budget	(\$15,221)
Increases class sizes and reduces elective offerings in Social Studies, American Sign Language (BOCES), English, and Science (-1.0 Social Studies teacher, -0.2 English teacher, -0.2 Science teacher)	(\$94,430)

### Twelve Corners Middle School

Increases student contact time by addition of flex staff (+1.6 teachers)	\$80,000
Reinstates teaching assistant in the library (+1.0 teaching assistant)	\$15,000
Reduces field trips and assemblies	(\$ 4,000)
Reduces the number of sections in Health from 18 to 14 (-0.2 Health teacher)	(\$10,000)

### French Road Elementary School

Replaces Teacher on Special Assignment position with Reading Teacher	\$0
Consolidates special education program based on decreases in enrollment (-0.5 teacher)	(\$25,000)
Reduces field trips (e.g. RPO trip in 4th grade, Genesee Country Museum, 5th grade Choir)	(\$ 7,000)
Reduces building budget impacting conferences and professional development	(\$11,880)
Eliminates full-time tutor with the addition of Reading Teacher (-1.0 tutor)	(\$25,570)
Limits the number of paraprofessional hours for copying and AV support (-0.5 paraprofessional)	(\$ 6,700)

### Council Rock Primary School

Adds a kindergarten section and 1st grade section based on increased enrollment (+1.5 teachers)	\$75,000
Expands support for early childhood literacy with the addition of a Reading Teacher (+1.0 teacher)	\$50,000
Reduces building budget impacting field trips and assemblies	(\$ 5,000)

### Interscholastic Athletics

Eliminates the following athletic teams*: Freshman football, Boys'/Girls' Modified A Soccer, one Boys'/Girls' Modified B Basketball, Boys' Modified A Baseball, Fall Modified A Cheerleading	(\$43,645)
<i>*There are additional opportunities for students to play these sports</i>	
Eliminates strength coach position	(\$ 3,800)

### General Support and Other Department Reductions

Transfers capital work to the Reserve	(\$50,000)
Reduces non-instructional clerical support	(\$15,000)
Restructures central technology support and human resources processing	(\$15,000)
Transfers certain salaries to federal grants and reduces operating surpluses	(\$550,000)

<b>Net Budget Impact on Proposed Changes to Programs and Services</b>	<b>(\$776,046)</b>
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# Proposed Budget Expenditures

## Total Proposed Expenditures for 2012-13 are \$65,866,693

There are several ways to review the budget information contained in the budget binder that is scanned for your reference on the District's Budget webpage on the district's website. One of those ways is at the function level. Functions include General Support, Instruction, Pupil Transportation, and Other Undistributed Charges such as Employee Benefits, and Transfers. The following narrative will summarize what is included in each function and provide a budget-to-budget analytical explanation.

**\$6,580,872 General Support:** Included in this function is operating expenditures related to the following business processes: payroll, accounts payable, budget development, human resources and communications. In addition, the General Support function provides for all insurances, legal fees, utilities, and costs associated with the maintenance of our buildings and grounds. Overall, the General Support function represents 10% of the total proposed budget. Compared to current year budget, the 2012-13 budget is proposed to increase \$231,731, or 3.65%. Of this amount, \$100,000 is attributable to increased legal fees and \$105,000 is to provide for increased unit costs of our utilities.

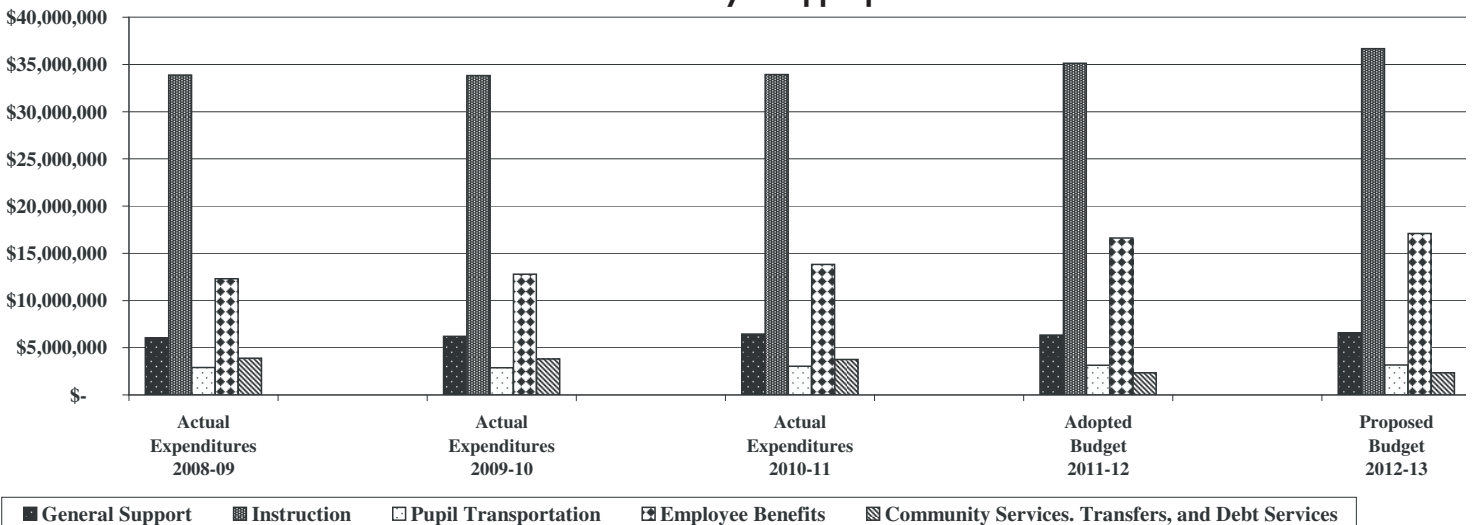
**\$36,683,779 Instruction:** Included in the Instruction function is our core academic program, building operations, as well as pupil services, co-curricular activities and interscholastic athletics. Included in the line item budget, the functions are disaggregated by administrative costs, general education programs, programs for students with disabilities, occupational education programs, summer school, library, computer instruction, counseling, health services, and other pupil services. For a summary of changes to the academic program, please refer to pages 2 and 3 as well as the District website. The Instruction function represents 56% of the proposed budget. Compared to current year, the 2012-13 budget is proposed to increase \$1,565,486, or 4.46%. As education is a labor intense industry, salaries and wages represent 77% of total instructional spending. The 2012-13 proposed budget reflects the overall addition of 1.1 teachers. In addition, it provides for more than 5,000 additional hours for teaching assistant support, most of which has been added in response to student needs. In addition to labor costs, the proposed budget reflects increases to mandated tuition costs paid to BOCES, state supported schools, and private schools, which provide specialized education programs.

**\$3,159,558 Pupil Transportation:** Pupil Transportation provides for the transportation of approximately 3,200 students. The District is maintaining a walk zone of ¼ mile for students in grades K - 6 and ¾ mile for students in grades 7-12. We contract with First Student for 33 large buses, 1 wheelchair bus, and 3 small buses. In addition to our four schools, we also transport to 25 private, parochial, and charter schools. Transportation costs represent less than 5% of the proposed budget. The primary cost-driver is the district's contract with First Student. All contractual increases are tied to the Consumer Price Index provided by the State Education Department (currently 3.2%).

**\$17,099,384 Employee Benefits:** Employee Benefit costs represent approximately 26% of the proposed budget and provide for contractual and mandated costs associated with the District's current and retired personnel. Within the employee benefits function, pension costs represent 26% of the costs, and the contribution rates are defined by the Employees' Retirement System and the Teachers' Retirement System. Fourteen percent of the costs are related to mandated payroll tax contributions, and 52% are attributable to contractual health insurance premium contributions. Because the District participates in the Rochester Area School Health Plan consortium, Brighton, in partnership with 17 other public school districts, has saved more than \$227 million over the last seven years compared to the community rated health care plans.

**\$2,343,100 Debt Service and Transfers:** This category provides for principal and interest payment for voter approved capital projects. Debt Service is decreasing by \$12,044 due to the refinancing of higher interest rate debt in the prior year. This function also provides for a mandated extended school year program, which is budgeted to increase \$19,518.

**Historical Summary of Appropriations**



# Revenue and Fund Balances

Approximately 69% of the proposed budget is funded by the local property tax levy. In addition, approximately 5% is funded using current resources from our reserve funds. Over the last three years, there has been more pressure placed on our local taxes and reserve funds because of decreases in State Aid and other local revenue sources. In 2011-12, the combined percentage of tax levy and fund balance was 72.7%. This shift to local sources is primarily attributed to the Gap Elimination Assessment adopted as part of the State budget. This is a mechanism used by the State to balance its budget. Brighton’s share of this Statewide assessment is \$2.1 million, which represents 3.2% of the proposed budget and 4.6% of the proposed 2012-13 tax levy.

In addition to the shift in funding for education at the State level, Brighton is also experiencing a decrease in payments in lieu of taxes (PILOTS). PILOTS are commercial taxes paid by local businesses that have tax agreements with the County of Monroe Industrial Development Agency. These businesses receive certain tax abatements for bringing new business to the area and creating jobs. For 2012-13, approximately \$570,000 in tax dollars will be collected from the tax levy instead of being directly billed to the commercial businesses. This requires us to raise the amount of taxes levied on the entire Brighton community, but since these businesses will now be paying toward this, the amount each taxpayer is responsible for will not increase as much. It is because of this that the proposed tax levy increase is 2.9%, but the estimated increase in the tax rate is 2.4%.

As part of the 2012-13 budget proposal, the District has recommended to the Board of Education increasing the use of reserves by \$980,000. While increasing the use of reserves has long-term implications, we believe we have the financial strength to execute a long-term plan that stabilizes the impact on the tax levy.

Over the past two years, the District has increased its reliance on its reserve accounts and yet has decreased the amount of surpluses that are generated from its operating results. If this trend continues, the District will have less in its savings account than it is using to pay its obligations starting in 2018.

Below is a summary of Reserve Fund balances and recommended uses. The balances are estimated as of March 1, 2012 to be available on June 30, 2012.

## Estimated Available Balances

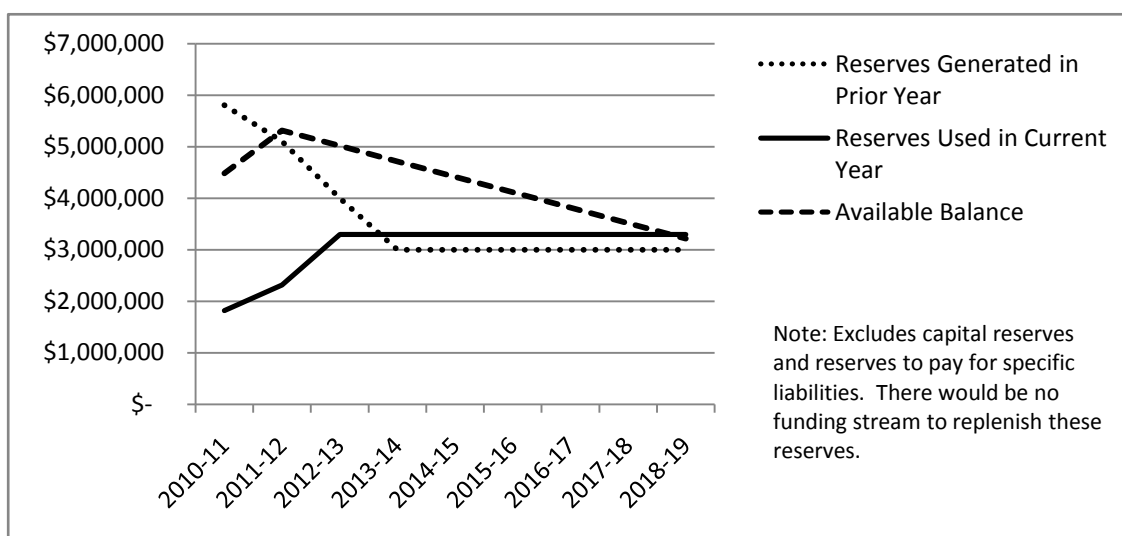
	Available Balance*	Recommended Use
Building Reserve Fund - R	\$5,618,357	\$ 1,400,000
Technology Reserve Fund - R	\$3,499,032	\$ 425,000
Other Liability Reserves - R	\$1,224,411	\$ 0
Retirement Contribution - A	\$2,375,768	\$ 800,000
Undesignated/Unrestricted - A	\$6,542,423	\$ 2,500,000
R- Restricted Use A -Available for Use		

\*Estimated as of March 2012

## Tax/Levy Rate Compared to Inflation Trends

	Tax Levy	Tax Rate	CPI
2009-2010	1.02	1.3	5.1
2010-2011	1.21	1.4	2.5
2011-2012	1.50	0.9	1.5
2012-2013	2.90	2.4	3.2

## Long-Term Impact of Use of Reserves



# Three Part Budget Information

## Program Component

**\$52,069,143 or 79.1% 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>	<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>	<b>Increase/(Decrease)</b>
Legal Services	\$51,569	\$58,250	13.0%
Instruction	32,725,617	34,328,041	4.9%
Other Distr. Transportation	154,675	161,777	4.6%
Contract Transportation	2,985,989	2,997,781	0.4%
Community Services	2,000	2,000	0.0%
Employee Benefits	13,916,643	14,426,194	3.7 %
Interfund Transfers	75,582	95,100	25.8%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$49,912,075</b>	<b>\$52,069,143</b>	<b>4.3%</b>

## Capital Component

**\$7,061,812 or 10.7% 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>	<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>	<b>Increase/(Decrease)</b>
Operation of Plant	\$2,652,246	\$2,808,610	5.9 %
Maintenance of Plant	928,013	893,692	-3.7 %
Employee Benefits	1,086,068	1,113,510	2.5%
Debt Service	2,258,044	2,246,000	-0.5%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,924,371</b>	<b>\$7,061,812</b>	<b>2.0%</b>

## Administrative Component

**\$6,735,738 or 10.2% of budget**

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

<b>Function or Account</b>	<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>	<b>Increase/(Decrease)</b>
Board of Education	\$58,600	\$57,422	- 2.0%
Central Administration	228,240	229,908	0.7%
Finance	803,569	812,706	1.1%
Legal Services	51,569	58,250	13.0%
Personnel	141,606	136,474	-3.6%
Records Management	26,614	23,559	-11.5%
Public Information	77,943	79,950	2.6%
Other Central Services	456,756	551,122	20.7%
Other Special Items	872,416	870,929	-0.2%
Curriculum Development and Supervision	229,671	182,261	-20.6%
Supervision Regular School	1,886,706	1,886,726	0.0%
Research and Evaluation	276,299	286,751	3.8%
Employee Benefits	1,613,856	1,559,680	-3.4%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,723,845</b>	<b>\$6,735,738</b>	<b>0.2 %</b>

<b>TOTAL</b>			
<b>THREE PART BUDGET</b>	<b>\$63,560,291</b>	<b>\$65,866,693</b>	<b>3.63%</b>



# Budget Information

## Overall Budget Proposal

	Budget Adopted for the 2011-12 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2012-13 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2012-13 School Year*
Total budgeted amount	\$63,560,291	\$65,866,693	\$64,582,382
Increase (decrease) for the 2012-13 school year		\$2,306,402	\$1,022,091
Percentage increase (decrease) in each proposed budget		3.63%	1.61%
Change in the consumer price index		3.20%	
School Tax Levy Limit		\$46,126,236	
Proposed School Year Tax Levy (without permissible exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit)		\$45,542,054	\$44,286,586
Total Permissible Exclusions		\$28,843	
Proposed School Year Tax Levy (including permissible exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit)	\$44,286,586	\$45,570,897	\$44,286,586
Administrative component	\$6,723,845	\$6,735,738	\$6,588,628
Program component	\$49,912,075	\$52,069,143	\$50,931,942
Capital component	\$6,924,371	\$7,061,812	\$7,061,812

\* The contingency budget was calculated under NYS Education Law, section 2023. Actual line item appropriations under a contingency budget will be determined by the Board of Education. Certain equipment purchases, student supplies and facility repairs not necessary to maintain the health and safety of the students, and some raises for non-union employees, must be eliminated under the Education Law.

Notes:

- (1) School Tax Levy Limit - The tax levy limit tells a school district how much community support it will need to pass a budget with its proposed tax levy. For school districts, the tax levy limit is the highest allowable tax levy (before exclusions) that a school district can propose as part of its annual budget and needs the approval of a simple majority of voters (50 percent plus 1) to pass the budget. School districts were required to report their calculated tax levy limit to the state comptroller by March 1. All calculations are subject to audit.
- (2) Proposed School Year Tax Levy (without permissible exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit) – This amount represents the proposed tax levy, less the allowable exemptions explained in Note 3.
- (3) Total Permissible Exclusions – The property tax cap law allows school districts to exceed the tax cap limit (see Note 1) for expenditures that are generally outside of their control. These include payments for known court orders or judgments against the district arising out of tort actions and certain pension costs arising from increases in the pension rates set by the Employees' Retirement System and the Teachers' Retirement System. In addition, School Districts can exempt from the limit the portion of the proposed tax levy that was previously approved by the voters (e.g. debt for a voter-approved capital project or bus purchase).

### Budget Impact on Tax Levy Increases

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

Actual 2011-12	Estimated 2012-13*	Difference	
\$24.49	\$25.08	\$0.59	2.4%

\*This is the rate per \$1000 assessed value. The tax bill for a home in Brighton/Pittsford valued at \$200,000 is \$4,898 this year. The estimated tax bill on this home under the proposed 2012-13 budget is \$5,015, a \$118.00 or 2.4% increase.

### Basic STAR Exemption Impact

Estimated Basic STAR<sup>1</sup> Exemption Savings

Budget Proposed for the 2012-13 School Year	
Estimated Basic STAR Tax Savings	\$749.39

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2012-13 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 15, 2012 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.

# Property Tax Cap Information

Tax Levy for the 2011-12 School Year	\$44,286,586
Total Tax Levy Limit	\$46,126,236
Allowable Tax Levy Limit Requiring 50%+1 Approval	4.15%
Total Proposed 2012-13 Tax Levy	\$45,570,897
% Change in Proposed Tax Levy	2.9%

## **Q Why is Brighton’s tax cap so high?**

**A** The tax cap is a multi-step formula. Each District across the State will have a different number and it would be rare for a district’s number to be exactly 2%. In some instances, the Tax Levy limit may be negative. For Brighton, the tax levy limit is greater than most districts because of the change in the amount of money paid directly by commercial business that have tax agreements with the County of Monroe Industrial Development Agency. These businesses will now be contributing to the tax levy and therefore we expect the tax rate to be less than the tax levy. It is important to remember that the tax levy is the amount of money raised to balance the budget. The change in tax rate (the amount of money paid per \$1,000 of assessed value) and the changes in your home’s assessed value impacts the change in your tax bill. For Brighton, the estimated change in the tax rate is 2.4%. To review the published guidance on the factors used to calculate the tax cap, please visit the New York State Department of Education, [www.nysed.gov](http://www.nysed.gov) and the Office of State Comptroller, [www.osc.state.ny.us](http://www.osc.state.ny.us).

## **Q I thought there was a statewide tax cap; why are the numbers different for every district?**

**A** The new legislation requires districts to calculate their own tax levy limits annually. Referred to by political leaders as the 2% tax cap, the law actually requires use of a somewhat complicated eight-step formula based on several factors. Tax cap calculations in area school districts have resulted in allowable increases ranging from 1.7% to 4.2%.

## **Q Doesn’t the tax cap law mean my tax bill cannot increase by more than 2%?**

**A** No. The law that New York State passed in June 2011 does not in fact cap an individual’s tax bill. Instead, it restricts the district’s tax levy - or the total amount in property taxes a district collects. Factors outside a school district’s control - such as the loss of assessment in the district - can cause an individual’s tax rate to increase at a greater rate than the tax levy.

## **Q Does the property tax cap mean the tax levy - or total amount raised in property taxes - will be limited to a 2% increase each year?**

**A** Not necessarily. State legislators included exemptions in the property tax cap law for certain expenses that may result in a tax levy increase greater than 2%. Those exceptions include items such as legally mandated pension contributions. In addition, if school districts want to exceed the property tax cap, they can do so if they obtain more than 60% approval from their community on the school budget.

## **Q If districts are not necessarily limited to a 2% increase in the tax levy, how do they know how much they can raise their tax levy by?**

**A** By law, each school district’s “tax levy limit” is determined by a complex, eight-step formula developed by New York State. The formula takes into consideration a number of variables, including growth in the local tax base (if any), exemptions, the previous year’s tax levy, as well as the current and future Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOTS). The rate of inflation or 2% (whichever is lower) is also part of the equation; the 2% you hear about is just one part of the eight-step formula that NYS requires districts to use to calculate their tax levy limit and maximum allowable tax levy. Individual school districts will each have a unique tax levy limit, which must be submitted to the State by March 1 each year (see chart above). Once the tax levy limit is determined, the district will then add coming school year’s exemptions to the tax levy limit, creating a “maximum allowable levy.” As a result, a district may actually propose a budget with a tax levy that is higher than its tax levy limit and still be within its “cap” under the law.

*Source: Questar III BOCES*



# Board of Education Candidates for Two Seats

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

## Martha Sciremammano, 18 Glenhill Drive (Resident 26 years)



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

**Profession/Employment:** Community Volunteer, bookseller at Barnes & Noble Children's Department

**Family:** Husband, Frank (Professor of Engineering, RIT); two children, Joie Neely (husband Mark), BHS 2001, University of Maryland, College Park (B.A., M.L.S.); Frank, BHS 2005, RIT (B.S.), Syracuse University College of Law (May 2012)

**School/Community Activities:** Member, Brighton Board of Education 2001 – present; Vice-President, Brighton Board of Education 2006 – 2009; Trustee, Brighton Education Fund 2000 – present; Board Representative: Monroe County School Boards Association Information Exchange Committee, PTSA; Past Member, District Policy Committee, Shared Services Committee, District Wellness Committee, District Health and Safety Committee, BHS Student Parking 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 (18 years); Recipient, New York State PTA Life Membership Award; Brighton Rotary Citizen of the Year 2002; Volunteer Assistant, CURE Survivor Day Picnic; Past-president, Evans Farm Neighborhood Association; Member, Brighton Baseball Board (5 years); Girl Scout Leader (4 years), sports booster activities.

**Statement:** *It is an honor to serve as a member of the Board of Education in the Brighton community, where education is so highly valued and appreciated, and the needs of our children always come first. 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 Schools. Our students must continue to receive the knowledge, tools, and opportunities they need to become all that they can be. My children's first day at Council Rock School started my many years of volunteer efforts within Brighton. As a member of the Board of Education, I hope to continue to serve our district with the dedication and energy that I have shown for these many years.*

## Mark Kokanovich, 391 Clover Hills Drive (Resident 19 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 (B.S.), St. John Fisher School of Pharmacy (2013); Bethany, BHS 2007, Georgetown University

**School/Community Activities:** Member, Brighton Board of Education February 2006 – present; Board President, Brighton Board of Education 2009 – present; Member, Monroe County School Boards Association Legislative (Chair), Executive, and Steering Committees; Member, BCSD Curriculum Council, K-12 Information Technology Committee, District Policy Review Committee; Member and Vice-Chair, Town of Brighton Recreation, Parks, and Community Service Citizen's Advisory Board 2002 – present; Member, Brighton Veterans Memorial Committee; Co-Founder and Board Member, Brighton Girls Youth Lacrosse Club 2001 – present; Board Member, Brighton Stormers Soccer Club 1999 - present; Past Recipient, New York State PTA Life Membership Award; Member, James P. Wilmot Cancer Center National Advisory Board 2009 - present.

**Statement:** *We are extremely fortunate to live in a supportive 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 responsibly and prudently in these difficult financial times as part of a highly effective team dedicated to providing District leadership and support that best serves the needs of all of our students. It would be a privilege to continue to serve our community by helping to preserve and enhance all that is encompassed in a "Brighton Education."*

## Rigel Goheen, 93 Monteroy Road (Resident 18 Years)



**Education:** Brighton High School (June 2012), will begin at the University of Rochester, Fall 2012

**Profession/Employment:** Student

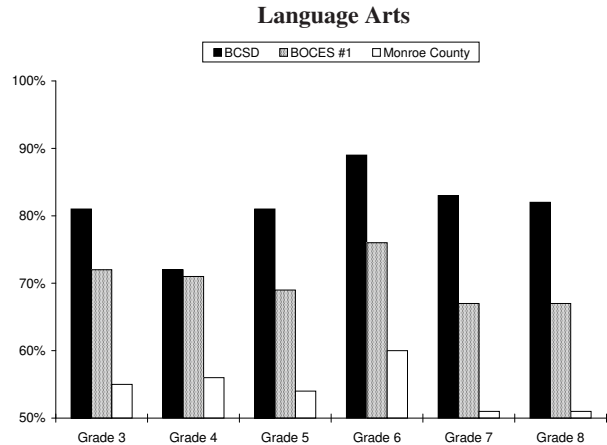
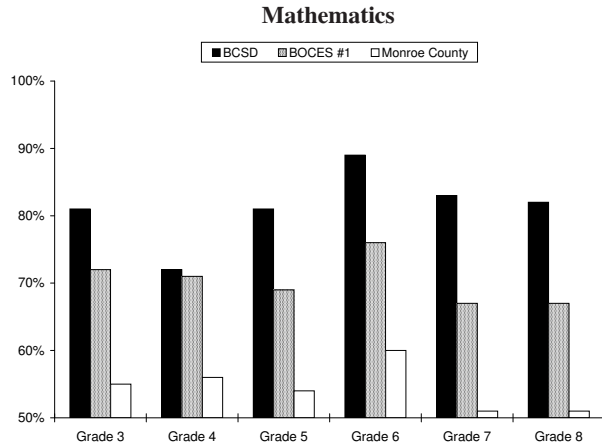
**Family:** Brother, Cal, BHS (Class of 2015), Father, Matthew Goheen, Mother, Roberta Goheen

**School/Community Activities:** Floor Director, BHS Morning Show; Brighton Rowing Club

**Statement:** *I believe in helping to bridge the gap between student and administration. I will use my experiences in the Brighton Central School District to guide my reasoning if I am on the School Board.*

# Educational Quality

## Percentage meeting or exceeding the NYS Standards compared to Schools in Monroe #1 BOCES



### Integrated Algebra Regents

Number Tested 319	BCSD	BOCES #1	Monroe County
% of tested scoring 65%-100%	94%	89%	74%
% of tested scoring 85%-100%	39%	38%	21%

### English Comprehensive Regents

Number Tested 289	BCSD	BOCES #1	Monroe County
% of tested scoring 65%-100%	96%	94%	87%
% of tested scoring 85%-100%	66%	62%	42%

## 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. In 2011, 416 students wrote 1,040 exams, with 89% of the exams receiving a score of 3 or better. In 2010, 437 students wrote 1046 exams, with 87% of the exams receiving a score of 3 or better. In 2009, 458 students wrote 1,132 exams, with 88% of the exams receiving a score of 3 or better. In 2008, 436 students wrote 984 exams, with 88% of the exams receiving a score of 3 or better. In 2007, 437 students took 1011 exams, with 88% of the exams receiving a score of 3 or better.



## National Blue Ribbon School

French Road Elementary School has been named a National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. The U.S. Department of Education named 304 schools as 2011 National Blue Ribbon Schools based on their overall academic excellence or their success in closing achievement gaps. French Road Elementary School was honored for academic excellence, and was only one of nineteen schools across NYS recognized for this year's national award.

# Educational Quality

## 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. This year, 10 students took SUPA (Syracuse University Project Advance) Economics. SUPA courses are taught by Brighton faculty members who are also Syracuse University Adjunct Instructors. In addition, several Brighton students are enrolled in a variety of dual credit courses through MCC including Calculus III (8 students), Digital Photography (30 students), Digital Imaging (22 students), and Leadership (20 students).

## 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 2012 with 280 students has 9 National Merit Scholarship Finalists, 9 National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalists, 30 National Merit Scholarship Commended Students, and 1 National Achievement Semi-Finalists. In addition, several Brighton students are selected each year to receive special scholarships funded through various corporations through the National Merit Scholarship Corporation Program.

## A School to Watch

In 2006, Twelve Corners Middle School received national recognition by the State Education Department and the New York State Middle School Association when it was added to a "Schools to Watch" list created by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform. The National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform comprised of educators and researchers is dedicated to improving schools for young adolescents across the country. This year, Twelve Corners Middle School was re-designated for the second time as a School to Watch. Twelve Corners Middle School is one of only twenty-five middle schools in the State and less than 300 schools across the country to receive this honor. The Schools to Watch initiative recognizes schools such as TCMS that have visionary leaders who are aware of and articulate desired academic outcomes, and then take the steps necessary to organize the programs and curriculum to ensure that all of their students achieve those goals. As a recipient of the award, TCMS serves as a model for middle schools throughout the nation.

## Percent 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

Class of	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Regents Diplomas	94%	94%	96%	95%	95%
Regents Diplomas with Advanced Distinction	81%	80%	82%	78%	76%

## Where is the Class of 2011?

- 93% of the students in the Class of 2011 planned to continue their education at 4 or 2-year colleges. Brighton students enrolled in more than 110 different post-secondary institutions.
- Seven percent of Brighton students had other plans including employment, military and travel.



# Voting Information

## Annual Budget Hearing

Tuesday, May 8, 2012, 7:00 pm, Brighton Administration Building, 2035 Monroe Avenue. Televised on Cable 12.

## When and Where to Vote

Tuesday, May 15, 2012, 7:00 am - 9:00 pm, 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 don't need to be registered!

## Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots are available to qualified school district voters. For information, call Barbara Morlock, District Clerk, at 242-5080, visit her at 2035 Monroe Avenue or e-mail [Barbara\\_Morlock@bcsd.org](mailto:Barbara_Morlock@bcsd.org).

## Additional Information

- Proposed budget details are available in all school offices, including the District Business Office, 2035 Monroe Avenue and on the website, [www.bcsd.org](http://www.bcsd.org) (under *Popular District Pages*, click on the BCSD Budget Information quick link).
- Call Lou Alaimo, Assistant Superintendent for Administration, at 242-5088 if you have budget questions.
- A 57 minute video on the budget will be broadcast on Brighton Cable 12 on the following schedule:

Tuesday, May 1	Candidates' Night	7:00 p.m.
Thursday, May 3		2:00 p.m., 7:30 p.m.
Friday, May 4		10:00 a.m.
Monday, May 7		3:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 9		2:00 p.m.
Friday, May 11		3:30 p.m., 8:00 p.m.
Monday, May 14		9:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, May 15		10:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m., 7:30 p.m.



**TIME TO  
VOTE!**

**May 15, 2012**

**Brighton**  
CENTRAL ♦ SCHOOLS

2035 Monroe Ave., Rochester, NY 14618  
(585) 461-9670  
[www.bcsd.org](http://www.bcsd.org)

### Superintendent

Kevin C. McGowan, Ed.D.

### Newsletter Editor

Jill Vigdor Feldman

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