

# Budget News



## The 2005-06 Proposed Budget

May 2, 2005

Dear Brighton School District Resident:

This newsletter provides information about the 2005-06 Brighton School District Budget, as recommended by Dr. Henry J. Peris, 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 in a fiscally responsible manner, which has been long characteristic of Brighton schools.

The budget development process provides the Board of Education with the opportunity to actively pursue the mission of the school district by providing the resources and direction necessary for educational opportunities for all students – those in the general education program, gifted education and special education.

Two categories, BOCES special education services and Benefits, including retirement system payments and health insurance, represent the major cost increases in this year's budget. These necessary increases 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.

This resulting budget proposal represents the thoughtful deliberation of your Board of Education, faculty, staff, school administrators, and community planning teams. It recognizes that Brighton Schools exist to strengthen the social and economic foundation of the Brighton community by assuring its youth the highest quality elementary and secondary education available anywhere. It also recognizes that these continue to be difficult fiscal times in our nation, state, and locality that make achieving our mission, while minimizing the financial impact on our community a difficult balance to attain.

The proposals for your consideration on Tuesday, May 17 are as follows:

- The 2005-06 school year budget, which reflects a 4.9% increase in operating expenditures, which would result in an estimated 3.9% increase in the property tax levy and rate.
- The election of three members to the Board of Education.
- Propositions 1 and 2, which would amend the Capital Reserve Fund (General) and authorize expenditures for capital projects during 2005-06. *Approval of Propositions 1 and 2 would not affect the budget or increase the tax rate.*
- Propositions 3 and 4, which would amend the Capital Reserve Fund (Technology) and authorize expenditures for technology improvements during 2005-06. *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 2005-06 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 17 from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Brighton High School, 1150 Winton Road South. Voting details are on pages 11 and 12. Your participation is appreciated.

Sincerely,

**Brighton Board of Education**

Thomas B. Brigham, Jr. President

Marvin C. Sachs, Vice President

John C. Beisheim

Rome Celli

Julene Gilbert

Molly S. Panner

Martha Sciremammano



*Colonial Day at French Road Elementary School is the culminating event of the fourth grade social studies unit about the colonial period. Students explore many of the activities performed during colonial times including tin making, candle making, calligraphy, quilting, stenciling, weaving, and the creation of pomander balls, samplers, poppets, and bonnets. Parent and community support help to make Colonial Day a successful and memorable learning experience.*

# The School District

## Who We Are

The Brighton Central School District is widely recognized for its outstanding programs, successful student body, interested parents and supportive community. The school district includes about 26,000 residents living in over 10,500 households.

Brighton's schools are organized on a districtwide basis so that all students at a given grade level attend the same school. The schools are Council Rock Primary School for kindergarten through grade two, French Road Elementary School for grades three to five, Twelve Corners Middle School for grades six through eight and Brighton High School for grades nine through 12.

Enrollment has been increasing 1.8% annually over the past 10 years. The fall 2005 enrollment was 3,728 students. There are 135 children from 27 countries in the English for Speakers of Other Languages program.

Brighton provides special education services to 476 students, including 384 students in District classrooms, 46 students in BOCES classes and 24 students in private and parochial schools. As required by the State, Brighton provides certain services to the 442 District children attending private and parochial schools. These include the special education services mentioned above as well as transportation, textbooks, software, library materials and health services.

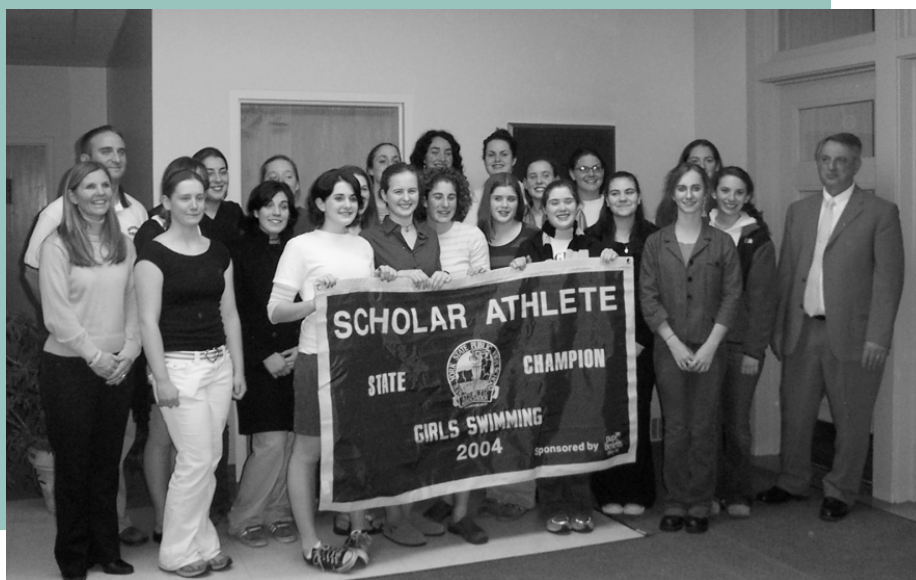
In addition to a comprehensive K-12 educational program, the District offers a continuing education program with three sessions each year, a Pre-School Parent Program, a Parent Resource Center, a summer performing arts program, a summer school for elementary students with identified learning needs, a summer school for middle and high school students who need extra instruction to meet Regents requirements, a summer driver education program, and a summer program for students in the ESOL program.

The District owns a vehicle maintenance facility on the high school campus plus two buildings that are not currently used for regular classes. The Twelve Corners Elementary building on Monroe Avenue houses administration offices, the Pre-School Parent Program, the Parent Resource Center, three BOCES programs and a credit union, and the Brookside Elementary building on Idlewood Road houses the Brighton Recreation Department, State Education Department offices, a private school and a day care program. The income from the rented spaces helps support the school budget.

## District Mission

The District Mission and Vision adopted in 1996 are the foundations of the budget that is prepared each year. The mission states, in part:

*The mission of the Brighton Central School District is to realize the high aspirations our community has for its children. We expect all students to achieve their full potential for personal development, educational success, and lifelong learning. We are committed to equipping students with knowledge, values, and skills that will enrich their lives and enable them to become responsible, contributing citizens of a changing global community.*



*The 2004 Girls' Swimming and Diving Team was the #1 Scholar Athlete Team in New York State. Eight other interscholastic teams were recognized as New York State scholar athlete teams.*

# The School District



*Brighton High School's Performing and Visual Arts Department's production of 42<sup>nd</sup> Street was professional, entertaining and truly magical.*



## Quality Indicators

- Brighton students perform very well in the new state assessments given at designated grade levels as students progress through elementary, middle and high school. The large majority of the students meet or exceed the N.Y.S. Performance Standards. Our schools are deemed to *far exceed* the state standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics. In a recent Standards & Poor's analysis found at [www.schoolmatters.com](http://www.schoolmatters.com), Brighton was one of 47 out of 636 school districts in New York State considered "outperforming" in reading and math. Outperforming districts achieve higher levels of student proficiency than their peers, perform at a level that significantly exceeds statistical expectations, and outperform consistently.
- The average Verbal SAT score for the Brighton High School Class of 2005 was 595 compared to 497 in New York State and 508 nationally.
- The average Math SAT score for the Brighton High School Class of 2005 was 640 compared to 510 in New York State and 518 nationally.
- Brighton High School offers 22 Advanced Placement (AP) courses. In 2004, 79% of the AP exams written by Brighton students were rated 3 or higher, the level recognized for high achievement. AP German Language received #1 recognition in the nation based upon participation rates and results.
- There are 1600 student roster slots on our 75 interscholastic athletic teams, which include Modified, JV and Varsity sports. This past winter, several Brighton teams received New York State Scholar Athlete Team recognition awards including Girls' and Boys' Alpine Skiing, Girls' and Boys' Basketball, Girls' and Boys' Indoor Track, Girls' Volleyball, and Wrestling. In fall 2004, the Girls' Swimming and Diving Team was the #1 Scholar Athlete Team in New York State.
- There are over 70 co-curricular clubs at Twelve Corners Middle School and Brighton High School.
- Over 1640 Brighton students participate in the grade 4 – 12 instrumental program, which includes band, orchestra and instrumental lessons. More than 580 Brighton students participate in a variety of grade 4 – 12 choral ensembles and voice lessons.
- Hundreds of Brighton music students participate in winter and spring county and state level solo festivals. Brighton students in grades 6 – 12 are consistently selected to be members of All-County and All-State performing groups.
- Brighton's Visual and Performing Arts program provides the community with over 30 instrumental/choral concerts, approximately six art shows in a variety of venues, four to five musicals during the year, three dramatic productions and a student-directed music production.
- Brighton High School had six Finalists, and 14 Commended students in the 2004 National Merit Scholarship Competition.
- Brighton High School was ranked 25<sup>th</sup> in the United States in a study published in *Newsweek Magazine* on June 2, 2003. Public schools were ranked according to a ratio of the number of Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate tests taken by all students at the school in 2002 divided by the number of graduating seniors.



# Foundations of the Budget

## Budget Guidelines 2005-06

The guidelines below were developed last September using a combination of the Consumer Price Index, projected student enrollment increases for 2005-06 and significant increases in some budget areas this current year.

- Meet all applicable mandates, health, safety and legal requirements
- Fulfill all contractual obligations
- Support educational programs and services vital to successful implementation of the District mission and vision
- Identify alternative funding sources
- Prepare the first draft of the 2005-06 budget with an increase of no more than 4.9% over the 2004-05 budget

## Community Input

During February and March, Superintendent Henry Peris worked with the Board, staff and community to reduce next year's preliminary projection of expenditures. This work had to be done very thoughtfully in order to preserve what distinguishes a Brighton education while not overburdening the taxpayers. The District received input through a series of broad-based community budget forums and Board of Education budget meetings.

## Key Provisions

The proposed budget of \$51,064,731 represents a forecast of proposed appropriations and revenues. This budget includes:

- Resources needed to support and maintain the high-quality education this community has come to expect for its students.
- Increased school budgets by 5% to accommodate instructional demands and needs in the areas of textbooks and school supplies.
- Continued implementation of the District's long-range facility maintenance and improvement plan through the Capital Reserve Fund, without an increase in the tax levy.
- Continued support for the use of information technology in the teaching-learning process through a Technology Reserve Fund created by the Board of Education and the community in 1994, without an increase in tax levy.

## Operating More Efficiently

The District continues to save money through the following efforts:

- Cooperatively purchasing natural gas, food and supplies.
- Self-insuring either cooperatively or individually for Workers' Compensation, liability and property insurance, dental insurance and Blue Cross/Blue Shield health insurances.
- 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.

## Ten-Year Historical Review – Keeping Costs Down

This budget recommendation must not be viewed in isolation since it is connected with budgets from prior years as well as with anticipated educational needs that will impact future years' budgets. The following information provides an historical perspective of the District's budget efforts over 10 years, from 1994-95 to 2004-05:

- The Brighton School District's average annual budget increase has been 5.6%. Brighton has the 5<sup>th</sup> lowest average budget increase among Monroe County school districts.
- The Brighton School District is spending the same amount on a per pupil basis as ten years ago when adjusted for the Consumer Price Index, despite the fact that the cost of health insurance, retirement costs and special education services increased significantly over this period of time.
- The Brighton School District's current year cost per pupil dropped from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> among 17 school districts.
- The Brighton School District's average annual tax rate increase since 1994 has been 3.5%.
- The Brighton School District invested \$8.7 million in capital improvements through a Capital Reserve Fund established in 1995 without incurring additional debt.
- The Brighton School District invested \$4.5 million in technology through a Technology Reserve Fund established in 1994 without incurring additional debt.

# Revenues and Expenditures

## Projected Revenues for 2005-06 are \$51,064,731 an increase of 4.9% over the 2004-05 budget.

- \$2,000,000 Sales Tax:** This represents Brighton's share of sales tax collected in Monroe County. A 5.3% increase is projected based upon actual receipts this year and the assumption that the economy will improve over the next school year.
- \$350,000 Investment Income:** The District invests funds received from all sources until they are needed for monthly operations. Investment income is expected to increase 27.3% based on actual receipts this year and the assumption that the economy will improve over the next school year.
- \$400,000 Rental Income:** The District receives income from renting most of the Brookside School building, a few rooms in the Twelve Corners Elementary building, two classrooms to BOCES in the middle school, and Town use of the pool. Rental income decreased by 2.4% due to the loss of rental income from one BOCES classroom at Twelve Corners Elementary School.
- \$1,682,000 Other Income:** This category includes such items as revenues from tuition-paying students, adult education programs, Payments in Lieu of Taxes, and reimbursement for health services the District provides to non-residents attending private and parochial schools in Brighton. This category is projected to increase 24.4% primarily due to receiving \$80,000 more than budgeted this year in Payments in Lieu of Taxes and tuition. Also, there is a new subcategory within this revenue category, Interfund Revenue, which accounts for \$170,000 of this increase.
- \$850,000 Fund Balance:** This category includes surplus revenues and under-expended appropriations from the current school year and is normally used to reduce the tax levy in the next school year. The fund balance remains unchanged.
- \$7,856,239 State Aid:** Brighton's figure for State Aid is based upon a conservative estimate of the New York State adopted budget. There is a 6.3% budget – to – budget increase in this category.
- \$37,926,492 Property Levy:** This category shows a 3.9% increase.

## Total Proposed Expenditures for 2005-06 are \$51,064,731 an increase of 4.9% over the 2004-05 budget.

- \$3,513,095 General Support:** Among the many areas in this account are operations and maintenance, central printing, central media services, pupil services, and legal services. This category is up 1.6%. The operations and maintenance budget is \$1,636,000 or 47% of this total category. District utility costs are 72% of the operations and maintenance budget. The cost of district property and liability insurance has increased by \$9,000 or 6.3%.
- \$5,188,003 BOCES:** The Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) is a cooperative arrangement to provide specialized services for 10 eastside school districts. This category is up by \$501,276 or 10.7%. The District is budgeting for 6 additional students with disabilities. Including related services for these students, this portion of the budget is up \$351,706 or 20%. Interpreter services are up \$62,309 or 28%. BOCES category also includes an increase of \$38,273 or 12% for transportation for students with disabilities. Vocational education has increased by \$58,212 or 56%.
- \$852,360 School Budgets:** This category includes individual school budgets for textbooks, library books, field trips, equipment, supplies, etc. This category represents an overall increase of 5% on a per-pupil basis.
- \$26,066,296 Instructional and Support Personnel:** This category represents the major part of expenditures. It is up 4.1% and includes all staff salaries based on contractual, negotiated increases. It maintains all current staffing.
- \$10,905,520 Benefits:** This category is up by \$866,758 or 8.6%. This increase includes a \$389,270 or 7.4% increase in health insurance plans, a \$579,731 or 49% increase in mandated employee retirement contributions and a \$72,000 or 4% increase in Social Security.
- \$163,395 Interscholastic Sports:** This category is up by 4.9% and includes the interscholastic program for the high school and middle school.
- \$1,931,140 Transportation:** This includes the cost of transporting students to Brighton public schools as well as over two dozen private and parochial schools. This category will increase \$85,180 or 4.6%, which includes a transportation contract increase based on the Consumer Price Index.
- \$2,444,922 Debt Service:** This category is down \$184,224 or 7.0%. This category includes interest and principal payments on construction bonds. Existing debt service is reduced by \$548,825. The first interest payment on the new K-5, \$7,360,000 bond issue is included at \$349,600.

# Budget Information

## The Budget Proposal

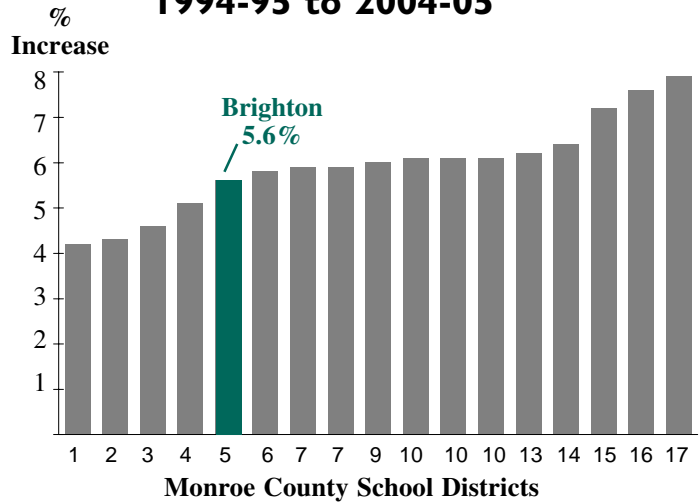
The budget proposal asks for voter approval to support a budget of \$51,064,731 to meet estimated expenditures for the 2005-06 school year. The chart below shows the impact on taxes.

### Current and Estimated Tax Rates

	Actual 2004-05	Estimated 2005-06*	Difference	
<b>Brighton/</b>	\$25.09	\$26.08	\$.99	3.9%
<b>Pittsford</b>	\$23.84	\$24.78	\$.94	3.9%

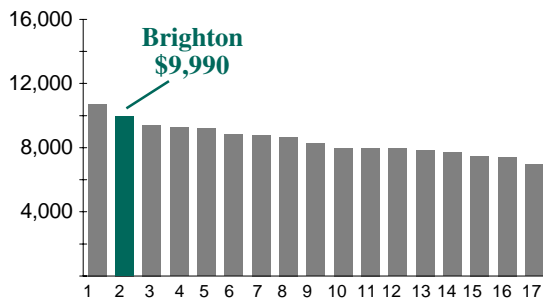
\* This is the rate per \$1000 assessed value. The tax bill for a home in Brighton valued at \$140,000 is \$3,513 this year. The estimated tax on this home under the proposed 2005-06 budget is \$3,651, a \$138 or 3.9% increase.

## Average Annual Budget Increases 1994-95 to 2004-05



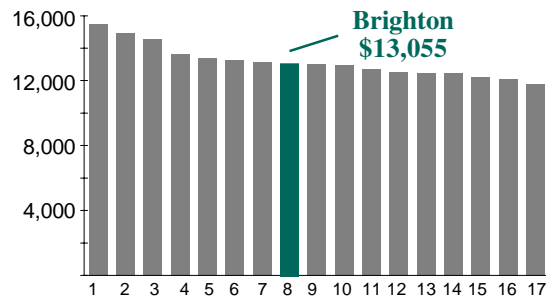
## Cost Per Pupil

### 1994-95



Monroe County School Districts

### 2004-05



Monroe County School Districts

Brighton's cost per pupil has declined from second to eighth in Monroe County.

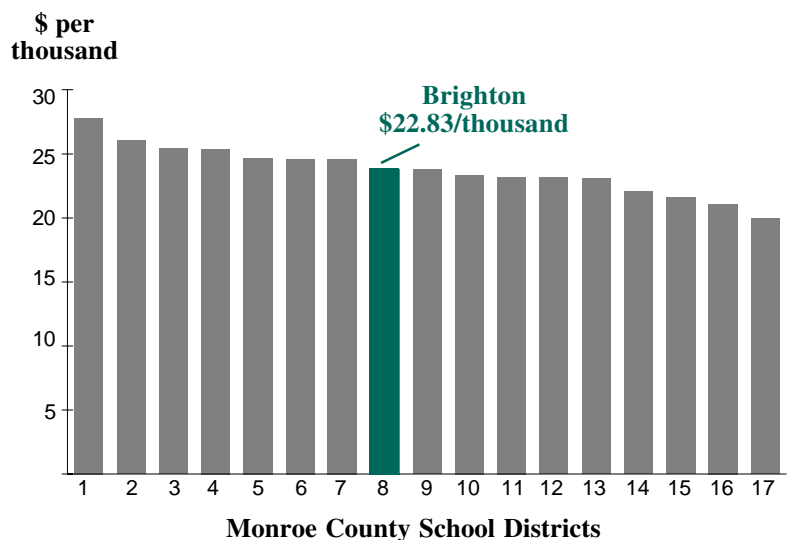
## Basic STAR Exemption Impact

This chart shows the estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings Based on a Hypothetical Home Within the School District with a Full Value of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000). The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

	Budget Adopted for the 2004-05 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2005-06 School Year
Basic STAR tax savings	\$715	\$743
School tax increase (decrease)	\$74	\$99
Net Basic STAR tax savings	\$641	\$644

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2005-06 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 17, 2005 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.

## True Value Tax Rate 2004-05



# Budget Information

## Three Part Budget Summary

Administration			Program			Capital		
Category	2004-05	2005-06	Category	2004-05	2005-06	Category	2004-05	2005-06
Board of Education	\$41,678	\$42,697	Legal Services	\$48,027	\$46,238	Operation of Plant	\$2,578,486	\$2,541,684
Central Administration	178,853	192,718	Instruction	26,148,153	27,502,763	Maintenance of Plant	897,401	868,959
Finance	700,804	706,506	Other Dist. Transportation	108,998	105,876	Employee Benefits	713,743	730,323
Legal Services	48,026	46,237	Contract Transportation	2,196,469	2,317,564	Debt Service	2,574,146	2,374,922
Personnel	149,110	154,057	Community Services	4,600	3,800	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,763,776</b>	<b>\$6,515,888</b>
Records Management	19,722	20,321	Employee Benefits	8,280,353	9,141,280			
Public Information	60,575	57,195	Transfer to Debt Service	55,000	70,000			
Other Central Services	354,935	366,008	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$36,841,600</b>	<b>\$39,187,521</b>			
Other Special Items	617,529	650,117						
Curriculum Development and Supervision	163,870	174,900						
Supervision Regular Sch.	1,631,741	1,731,787						
Research and Evaluation	159,313	163,881						
Employee Benefits	939,122	1,054,898						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,065,278</b>	<b>\$5,361,322</b>						

★ Brighton School District Vote  
**MAY 17<sup>th</sup>**  
 It's your opportunity.

## Overall Budget Proposal

	Budget Adopted for the 2004-05 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2005-06 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2005-06 School Year*
Total budgeted amount	\$48,670,654	\$51,064,731	\$50,374,875
Increase (decrease) for the 2005-06 school year		\$2,394,077	\$1,704,221
Percentage increase (decrease) in each proposed budget		4.9%	3.5%
Change in the consumer price index		2.7%	
Resulting est. property tax levy for the 2005-06 school year		\$37,926,492	\$37,236,636
Administrative component	\$5,065,278	\$5,361,322	\$5,288,944
Program component	\$36,841,600	\$39,187,521	\$38,658,007
Capital component	\$6,763,776	\$6,515,888	\$6,427,924

\*The contingency budget is based upon the following assumptions:  
 Allowable increase of 3.24% by state law plus increases for expenses related to student enrollment and adjusted for debt service expense. The actual appropriation under a contingency budget would be determined by the Board of Education should this become necessary.



*The Brighton Fire Department works in collaboration with the school district to educate students about fire prevention and safety in support of the state health curriculum.*

# Board of Education Candidates for Three Seats

The seven candidates for three seats are presented in the order their names will appear on the ballot. The following biographies were submitted by the candidates. It is the District's practice not to revise content.



## Yachin Liu, 190 Heatherstone Lane (Resident 2.7 years)

**Education:** Undergraduate degree in Optical Instruments, Tsinghua University; M.S. in Physics, University of New Brunswick; Ph.D. Massachusetts Institute of Technology

**Profession/Employment:** Currently chooses to be homemaker and volunteer; Co-Principal Investigator of United States Air Force Project and National Institute of Standards and Technology Project; Senior Scientist, led a team of engineers and technicians for Laser Interference Lithography Technology Transfer; Co-Inventor, Laser Interference Lithography for Field Emission Display; Co-Inventor of five United States patents; Author/Co-Author of technical papers published in professional journals

**Family:** Husband, Dr. Amal Ghosh; son Timmy at Twelve Corners Middle School and pre-college diploma program, Eastman Community Music School at University of Rochester

**School/Community Activities:** Member, PTSA 2002 - 2005; Volunteer at school calendar sales, activity night, computer/technology related activities at French Road Elementary School/Twelve Corners Middle School; Chair, Fourth Grade Science Fair Committee, Oak Grove Elementary School, Poughkeepsie, New York 2002; Special Judge, Dutchess County 2001 and 2002 Science Fairs, Grades 5 - 12, Poughkeepsie, New York; Team Mother, Travel Soccer U10, Poughkeepsie, New York 2001-2002; Assistant Coach, T-Ball, Poughkeepsie, New York 2000

### Statement:

*Many families have come to Brighton because of its high standard of education. We are one of them. I believe that the most important task for the Board of Education is the outlook for better and more effective ways to educate our children. I would like to see more accomplished in channeling the professional expertise from the vast resources of parents and community members to our students at all levels.*



## Michael Boroson, 281 Grosvenor Road (Resident 13 years)

**Education:** B.S. in Chemical Engineering, University of Michigan; Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

**Profession/Employment:** Program Leader and Research Scientist, Eastman Kodak Company

**Family:** Wife, Cathy Fleischer, R & D Program Manager with Eastman Kodak Company; two children, Dan at Brighton High School and Allie at Twelve Corners Middle School

**School/Community Activities:** Member, multiple Brighton Central School District Hiring Committees 1996 - 2005; Math Curriculum Committee; Program Review Committee; in-class volunteer; PTSA volunteer; Member, Temple Sinai

### Statement:

*Thirteen years ago we moved from Connecticut to Brighton for the schools. Brighton's schools were, and still are, our community's most valuable asset. Our schools provide exceptional opportunity for our children, high property values, and an enriched quality of life. I will work with the Board, administrators, teachers, parents, and students to maintain that value, while remaining fiscally responsible.*

*I serve on district committees meeting regularly with Dr. Peris, principals, and staff. I understand the issues and have constructive working relationships with Brighton Central School District leaders. I can apply that experience to hiring the best superintendent for Brighton and helping him/her understand Brighton's culture and expectations.*

*I am committed to the district's mission to enable all students to achieve their full potential. With my Brighton Central School District volunteer experience and my business and technology experience, I will support our district's work of helping our students prepare for their futures.*



## Charlotte Cornell-Simmons, 85 Poplar Way (Resident 9 years)

**Education:** B.A. *cum laude* in Management and Spanish, Syracuse University

**Profession/Employment:** Homemaker; Special Services Substitute Paraprofessional, Brighton Central School District 1996 - 1999

**Family:** Husband, John; children, Andrew at Brighton High School and Ashleigh at The Harley School

**School/Community Activities:** Street Representative, Evans Farm Neighborhood Association 1996 - 2002; Religion Teacher, Our Lady of Lourdes Church 1996 - 2005; President, Advocacy for Gifted and Talented Education (AGATE) 1997 - 2000; Member, French Road Elementary School Math Committee 1998 - 1999; Co-Leader, Girl Scout Troop 359, 2001 - 2002; Volunteer, PTSA 1997 - present



# Board of Education Candidates for Three Seats

**Charlotte Cornell-Simmons** *continued*

**Statement:**

*It's all about the kids. We as parents, teachers, and administrators have chosen Brighton because we believe in the value of a Brighton education. The School Board has a responsibility to enable our schools to build upon the Brighton tradition of excellence. As a member of the school board, I pledge to be responsive to the concerns of the community, and to act always in the best interests of our students.*

*My background reflects my commitment to serve our community and my concern for all children. This concern has led me to be employed as a paraprofessional for special needs children, to teach first grade religion at my parish, and to serve in a leadership capacity with AGATE.*

*I look forward to serving on the Brighton Board of Education and I ask for your vote on May 17.*



## David Marcus, 314 Warren Avenue (Resident 7 years)

**Education:** B.A. in International Relations, Syracuse University; M.B.A. Rochester Institute of Technology

**Profession/Employment:** Project Manager, Xerox Corporation, 1997 – present; U.S. Army, Signal Corps Officer, 1982 – 1992, Staff and Command positions in locations throughout the United States and Europe, attained the rank of Major

**Family:** Wife, Angelika; one child, Philip at Brighton High School

**School/Community Activities:** Active Member, Festival of Ideas Planning Committee and Presenter; PTSA and parent volunteer

**Statement:**

*There is something exhilarating about seeing the “WOW” in students’ eyes when they understand a new idea or concept. As a school board member, I will be committed to ensuring that our Brighton kids will be exposed to the “WOW” and prepared for success.*

*Brighton’s schools are the foundation of this community and have a rich tradition of commitment, diversity and excellence. We need to preserve this culture of achievement and enable school programs to overcome the long-term challenges we will face.*

*During my professional career, I have developed a diverse set of skills that will allow me to work with fellow board members and the school’s administration to identify and overcome challenges. The ability to listen, analyze, and communicate with the community are some of the strengths I will bring to our board.*

*Unleashing the potential inside each of our kids is really what it is all about. We need to continue to teach them how to think and not what to think. We need to preserve their future through the sound decisions and recommendations made today. Their fulfillment is our success, and I am committed to that accomplishment.*



## Julene Gilbert, 130 Runnymede Road (Lifelong Resident)

**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:** Director of Development, CURE Childhood Cancer Association; Costume Coordinator, Brighton Performing Arts Department 1996 – 2002; Teacher, costume building classes, Brighton Summer Performing Arts Program 1996 – 2002

**Family:** Barry Gilbert, husband of 33 years, CEO of IEC Electronics; Adjunct Professor, Simon School at University of Rochester; three children, Elissa, BHS 1996, Carnegie Mellon University, fourth year medical student at University of Rochester; Cara, BHS 1999, Quinnipiac University, Americorp volunteer in Seattle,

Washington; Daniel, BHS 2002, Hobart College

**School/Community Activities:** Appointed to the Brighton Board of Education in January 2002; long time PTSA member; former Co-Chair, Brighton High School PTSA; recipient PTSA Life Membership Award; former Board Member, Temple B’rith Kodesh; former Board Member, American Heart Association; President, Helping Hearts Parent Support Group

**Statement:**

*Brighton is a district and community that demands and has maintained a high standard of excellence for its schools. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as a member of the Brighton Central School District Board of Education for the past three years, working with fellow Board members, Dr. Peris and the other administrators in our district, faculty and staff who are strongly committed to meeting the needs of every child. I have had the opportunity to learn and grow as a person and as a Board member. That experience will strengthen my ability to continue to provide leadership for our district as we prepare for the transition we will experience as we hire a new Superintendent and High School principal. I look forward to the opportunity to continue to serve all of the children of our community.*

# Board of Education Candidates for Three Seats



## Linda Morrison, 118 Branford Road (Resident 9 years)

**Education:** B.S. magna cum laude in Psychology, University of Pittsburgh

**Profession/Employment:** Director of Programs, CURE Childhood Cancer Association

**Family:** Husband, Roger; two children, Olivia Savage, BHS 2004; Quinn Morrison at Twelve Corners Middle School; Mother, Elise Perisino of St. John's Meadows

**School/Community Activities:** Current President, PTSA; Vice-President, PTSA 2003 -2004; Member, PTSA Executive Board 2001 – 2005; Co-Chair, Brighton High School PTSA 2001 – 2003; Chair, Brighton High School Mailing Committee 2000 – 2001; Chair, French Road Elementary School Store 2000 – 2001; Co-Chair, French Road Elementary School Teacher/Staff Appreciation Luncheon 2001 - 2002; Member, Twelve

Corners Middle School Planning Team 2003 - 2004; Member, multiple Brighton Central School District Hiring Committees 1999 - 2005; Member, Curriculum Council 2002 - 2003; Member, School Lunch Committee 2004 - 2005; Member, Performing Arts Booster Club 2001 - 2004; Room Parent, French Road Elementary School 1999 - 2001; Classroom volunteer, Council Rock Primary School 1998 - 1999; parent volunteer 1997 – present

**Statement:**

*As president of the Brighton PTSA this year, and a member of the PTSA's Executive Board for the past four years, I've had the opportunity to work closely with the administrators, faculty, staff and parents of our district. As a result, I understand how our district works and the challenges we face. If elected to the Board of Education, I promise to work diligently to continue our tradition of excellence in academics and all aspects of our Brighton programs. I will work to assure that all children receive the best possible education and that they have the opportunity to achieve to the highest level of their ability.*



## Marvin Sachs, 20 Chalet Circle (Resident 37 years)

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

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

**Family:** Wife, Sora Sachs, Writing Instructor, R.I.T., member, Monroe BOCES I Board of Education; two children, Jonathan, BHS 1987, Cornell University, University of Chicago, Ph.D. in English; Eric, BHS 1992, New England College

**School/Community Activities:** Member, Brighton Board of Education 1990 - present; President, 1995 - 1997;

Vice-President, current, 1992 - 1995; Chair, Brighton School District Long Range Planning Study Group 1988 - 1989; Member, Brighton PTSA, 1974 - present; former Chair, Budget Study Committee; former member, Gifted and Talented Committee and School-Community Relations Committee

**Statement:**

*I have served on the Brighton Board of Education for the past 15 years and have been part of two superintendent searches. My experience from these past searches will ensure the same quality of excellence in the selection of our next superintendent. In my time on the Board, I have appreciated the high quality of our professional staff and the educational programs we offer our diverse population of students. If I am elected to a sixth term, I pledge to continue to support the same quality of professional staff and educational programs.*

★  
★  
★ Brighton School District Vote  
**MAY 17<sup>th</sup>**  
It's your opportunity.

# Six Proposals on May 17, 2005 Ballot

## BUDGET

The budget proposition would authorize the appropriation of \$51,064,731 to meet estimated school district expenditures for the 2005-06 school year. *Approval of the budget would result in an estimated 3.9% increase in the property tax rate.*

## BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION

Voters will elect three members to the Board of Education. There are seven candidates, whose names will appear on the ballot in the following order: Yachin Liu, Michael Boroson, Charlotte Cornell-Simmons, David Marcus, Julene Gilbert, Linda Morrison and Marvin Sachs. Voters may also write in names.

## PROPOSITION #1

### Capital Reserve Fund (General) Withdrawal

This proposition establishes a maximum allocation that may be funded over a 10-year period for capital projects. The ultimate amount that can be deposited in the fund is increased from \$10 million to \$15 million, and the term of the fund is extended to June 30, 2015. *Annual, separate voter authorization is required to expend money from this reserve account.*

## PROPOSITION #2

### Capital Reserve Fund (Technology) Withdrawal

This proposition would authorize the withdrawal of \$1.5 million for capital improvements to include, at Brighton High School, replacement of lockers, heat pump and air handler units, and a five-year building condition survey. *Approval of this proposition would not increase the budget or tax rate.*

## PROPOSITION #3

### Amend Existing Capital Reserve Fund (Technology)

This proposition established a maximum allocation that may be funded over a 10-year period for technology projects. The ultimate amount that can be deposited in the fund is increased from \$5 million to \$7.5 million, and the term of the fund is extended from June 30, 2012 to June 30, 2015. *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 withdrawal of \$500,000 for computer-related equipment, software and staff training 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.*



*Throughout the school year, the district provides a Lunch and Learn series on a variety of topics for the community. This years' diverse programs included such topics as "Education in Japan," "William Wyler: Hollywood's Best Film Director," "Did Anyone Else Write Plays? Shakespeare vs. The Rest of the World," "How to Write Contemporary Fiction That Will Fulfill Your Creative Ambition," "Healthy Gardening," and "To Buy a Computer or Not?"*

# Voting Information

## Annual Budget Hearing

Tuesday, May 10, 2005, 7:30 p.m., Brighton Administration Building, 2035 Monroe Avenue. Televised on Cable 12.

## When and Where to Vote

Tuesday, May 17, 2005, 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. For information, call Pat Sullivan, District Clerk, at 242-5080, e-mail [pat\\_sullivan@bcsd.org](mailto:pat_sullivan@bcsd.org) or visit her at 2035 Monroe Avenue.

## Additional Information

- Proposed budget details are available in the Brighton Memorial Library and all school offices, including the District Business Office, 2035 Monroe Avenue.
- Call 242-5089 if you have budget questions.
- A 46-minute video on the budget will be broadcast on Brighton Cable 12 on the following schedule:

Thursday	May 5	8:00 a.m.
Friday	May 6	7:00 p.m.
Sunday	May 8	10:00 a.m., 9:00 p.m.
Monday	May 9	7:30 p.m.
Wednesday	May 11	7:30 a.m., 10:00 p.m.
Friday	May 13	10:30 a.m., 8:00 p.m.
Saturday	May 14	2:30 p.m.
Sunday	May 15	4:30 p.m.
Monday	May 16	8:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday	May 17	10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 7:00 p.m.



*Students participate in field trips during the academic year to enhance their educational learning experience. Brighton High School biology students study aquatic ecology, field and forest ecosystems and participate in tree identification during an annual field trip to Mendon Ponds Park.*



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**Superintendent**  
Dr. Henry J. Peris

**Newsletter Editor**  
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