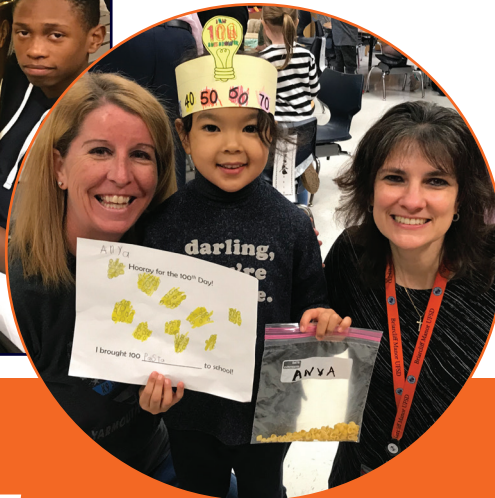
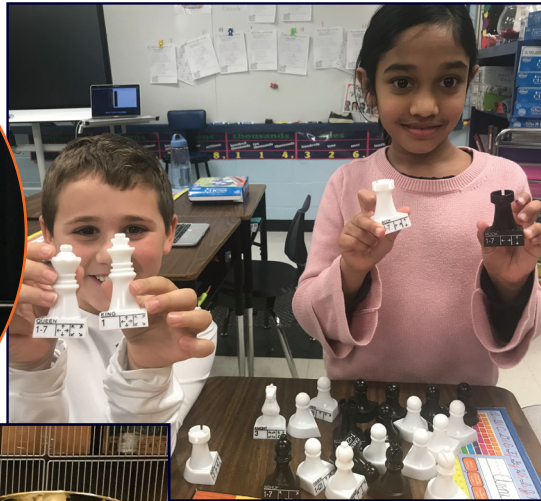


# Briarcliff Manor

## Union Free School District



### ➔ On the Ballot for 2019-2020

#### THE BUDGET

- Proposed Budget: **\$52,690,000**
- Budget-to-Budget Increase: **0.95%**
- Tax Levy Increase: **2.69%**
- Complies with the state tax levy cap

#### THE BOND

- **A bond proposition of \$2,987,000 for security improvements and repairs.** It includes: at BMS/BHS, a full campus generator, driveway entrance repaving, gymnasium roof replacements, and a new surface for the track; at Todd, courtyard drainage and replacement floor tiles as needed. It also allows for the replacement of the public announcement system controls in all three schools.

#### BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION

- **Two seats**, each for a three-year term starting July 2019.

## SPECIAL BUDGET EDITION

# VOTE

**May 21, 2019 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.**  
**Todd Elementary School**  
**Budget Vote and Board Candidate Election**





## Dear Residents:

The challenge and opportunity of preparing the budget each year are in finding **the right balance between high-quality, innovative educational programs, and safe, secure facilities while remaining within the allowable tax levy limit.** Developing a school budget is a thoughtful, year-long process that culminates in an annual community vote. In addition to the Board of Education election, this year the District is asking the community to consider two items — the proposed 2019-2020 budget as well as a \$2.99 million bond proposition to address roof repairs and other important infrastructure needs.

In Briarcliff, our District's vision is to *"educate and inspire students to become knowledgeable, skilled and confident young men and women."* This is achieved through rigorous professional standards, student engagement, academic opportunities and supports, student social and emotional well-being, and outstanding faculty and staff. Ever mindful of this philosophy, we are pleased to report that the proposed 2019-2020 budget supports Briarcliff's comprehensive educational vision because it:

- Maintains or improves our school programs
- Provides greater student support (ICT) in 9th and 10th grade classrooms
- Reduces class size at the middle school
- Supports the implementation of the Columbia University Writing Program K-5
- Promotes the social and emotional well-being of students
- Increases STEAM integration and Computer Science access and offerings K-12
- Continues the District's commitment to ongoing Professional Development
- Addresses new and existing federal and state mandates
- Complies with the allowable tax levy limit

**The 2019-2020 budget attends to high-priority facility, maintenance, and safety and security issues.** These include replacement of the District's aging WiFi, classroom display devices and network backup systems. It allows for a Todd full-building generator and a new HS Gym scoreboard. It supports our professional security team, allowing for a continuation of coordinated, multi-agency drilling and training activities, and funds for an automated door lockdown system for Todd.

We hope you have taken time to learn about the **\$52,690,000** budget which the Board of Education has adopted this year. **It represents a 0.95% budget to budget increase and a tax levy compliant increase of 2.69%.**

**The Board also authorized a bond proposition in the amount of \$2,987,000 for safety & security improvements and repair projects.** Specifically, the bond will allow the district to replace both gymnasium roofs, install a Middle/High School generator and repave the driveway entrance at the Middle/High School campus.

Effective, responsive and inspiring school programs are only possible with the support of parents and the school community. *This is why we urge you to get engaged and take the time to exercise your civic responsibility and vote on May 21st!*

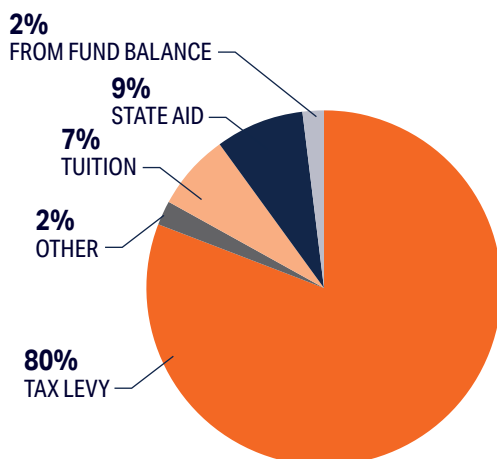
Respectfully,

Dr. James Kaishian  
*Superintendent of Schools*

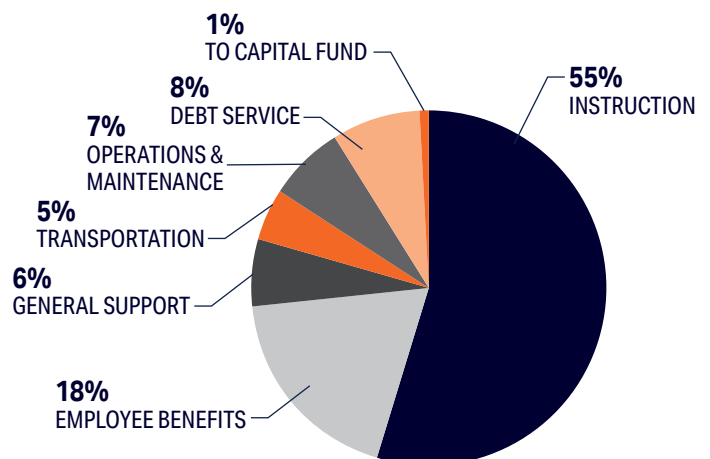
Mrs. Jennifer Rosen  
*Board of Education President*

## 2019-2020 Budget Revenues/Expenditures Breakdown

### Revenues



### Expenditures



## Budget/Expense Summary

Category	2017-18 Budget	2018-19 Budget	2019-20 Proposed
Salaries & Benefits	\$35,704,764	\$36,430,259	\$37,012,900
Equipment	351,781	442,471	176,900
Supplies	1,399,123	1,217,449	1,432,000
Tuition	1,144,330	1,239,330	1,253,000
Contractual	4,973,354	5,435,397	5,704,756
BOCES Services	3,690,824	3,224,619	2,642,244
Debt Service	3,876,975	3,881,888	4,108,200
Transfers to Other Funds	25,000	25,000	60,000
Capital Projects	300,000	300,000	300,000
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$51,466,151</b>	<b>\$52,196,413</b>	<b>\$52,690,000</b>

## Revenue Summary

Category	2017-18 Budget	2018-19 Budget	2019-20 Proposed
State Aid	\$5,472,438	\$5,088,309	\$4,930,500
County Sales Tax	411,967	411,967	440,000
Tuition & Charges for Services	3,510,613	4,671,661	3,898,765
Interest Earnings & Rentals	162,046	43,715	176,800
Other Misc.	188,952	230,761	233,635
Interfund Transfers	155,135	-00	-00
<b>TOTAL OTHER REVENUES</b>	<b>\$9,901,151</b>	<b>\$10,446,413</b>	<b>\$9,679,700</b>
<b>TAX LEVY</b>	<b>\$40,345,000</b>	<b>\$40,821,770</b>	<b>\$41,920,000</b>
<b>ASSIGNED FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$1,220,000</b>	<b>\$928,230</b>	<b>\$1,090,300</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$51,466,151</b>	<b>\$52,196,413</b>	<b>\$52,690,000</b>

**0.95% Budget-to-Budget Increase**



# Excellence Highlights in the Briarcliff Manor School District

## Briarcliff High School

- Anna-Samsara Daefer won semi-finalist honors in the prestigious **Regeneron Science Talent Search** for her project "Mesoderm Formation and Nodal Signaling in Zebra Fish Embryos and Blastoderm Explants."
- Stephanie Markowitz won the UHS **Creative Writing Contest** with her entry, *Making Connections*.



- Fifteen Briarcliff High School students attended the **New York State Theatre Education Association Conference**.
- The Pediatric Cancer Foundation Club at the high school raised \$675 this year.
- Senior Charlotte Sendek won the **Acorda Scientific Excellence Award**.
- Junior Michael Tu won third place in the Columbia Economic Review High School Essay Contest.
- **Briars & Ivy**, the high school literary magazine, won awards for excellence from the National Council of Teachers of English, the American Scholastic Press Association, the Columbia

Scholastic Press Association, National Scholastic Press Association and the Empire State Scholastic Press Association.

- Ten Briarcliff High School students displayed their work at the Katonah Museum of Art's **Young Artists Exhibit**.
- Noah Benson and Andrew Van Camp were named finalists in the **National Merit Scholarship** Competition.
- Sophomore Brian Zhou, an oboist, was selected to perform with the New York State Band Associations (NYSBDA) **2019 Honors Band**.
- Briarcliff High School presented **Chitty Chitty Bang Bang** to rave reviews.
- Sixteen Briarcliff High School students earned honors at the Westchester Science & Engineering Fair. Chris Li was selected to attend the **GENIUS Olympiad** at SUNY Oswego in June.



The other winners were: Ryan Bell, Katya Didonato, Max Fante, Ben Harris, Gil Halevi, Ryan Herh, Willow Horowitz, Finn Hossfeld, Danielle Jacoby, Camryn Jaeger, Matthew Li,



Nathaniel Martinez, Charlotte Sendek, Isabella Wang and Karina Zielinski.

- BHS students from the **SADD club** attended the Second Annual Westchester County Youth Summit.
- The first-ever Briarcliff High School computer programming team competed in the **32nd Annual High School Programming Contest** at Siena College — and won. Seniors Daniel Deng, Ben Harris, Josh Kupka and Andrew Van Camp finished first among the 29 teams in the green division for first-time competitors.
- **Debate team** had an incredibly successful season, with Team 2 earning a 10-1 record and placing second in the league, and Team 1 ending the season with a 6-3 record.
- Five Briarcliff High School students were named **Scholastic Arts Winners**. They were: Daniel Deng, Anna Albert, Sarah Albert, Jessica Scott and Finn Torres.
- Briarcliff High School was named one of the **top 100 high schools** teaching personal finance by W!se, Working in Support of Education.





## Want more INFO?

Go to [www.briarcliffschools.org/board-of-education/budget-information](http://www.briarcliffschools.org/board-of-education/budget-information) for complete budget details.



## Briarcliff Middle School

- Three Briarcliff Manor Middle School students — Colin Zhao, grade 7, Kevin Cao, grade 8, and Gautam Gupta, grade 7 — were top performers in the **Mathematical Association of America AMC8 Competition**. Colin and Kevin scored in the top 5%, while Gautam scored in the top 1% nationwide.
- Briarcliff Middle School hosted the **12th Annual Rivertowns Honor Band/Orchestra Festival**, bringing together outstanding young musicians from



- Briarcliff, Croton, Ossining, and Sleepy Hollow.
- Middle School **mathletes** scored fifth among 15 teams at the Math Counts competition held at Pace University, with one student – Gautam Gupta – making it to the top 12 competitors out of about 150 participants.
- The fifth annual sixth-grade **Maker Faire** was held in February.
- Jessica Dubin's seventh grade class participated in the **Garrison Art**

- Center's Student Invitational Show "Hello Dali"** with a surrealist theme.
- The middle school hosted a **Community Vaping Awareness Presentation**.
- Celebrated **Multicultural Day** with a schoolwide festival. The day included a "tour" of country projects created by students, classroom activities around cultural awareness and acceptance, and foreign films selected for each grade level. Food Services even offered a special menu.
- Math teachers celebrated **Pi Day (3/14)** with a student competition to see who could recite the most decimal places on Pi. Guatum Gupta, Harper McDermott, and Brian Pahk were the winners.
- Tevin Kim and Maddie Rohde took second and fourth place, respectively, at the **You Be the Chemist** competition sponsored by the Chemical Education Foundation.

## Todd Elementary School

- Fifth-graders completed a **digital citizenship** project created using iPads and the new "green rooms" in the library and Lori Whitman's room. They learned that good digital citizens should not share personal information online, should think twice before sending photos, and should not copy and paste someone else's words because it's plagiarism. Students highlighted good choices when faced with pop-up ads, online bullying, and strangers.
- Evan Turk, an Ezra Jack Keats **Award-winning illustrator, author and animator**, visited Todd Elemen-



- tary thanks to funding from the PTA. Turk, who lives in the Hudson Valley, is the author of such books as *Storyteller* and *Heartbeat*.
- Todd students created **Valentines for Veterans**.
- Todd hosted **Souper Bowl V**, collecting nearly 400 items for the local food pantry.
- Kathleen Godleski piloted a chess program in her classroom as a way to boost critical thinking and **STEM** standards.
- Physical Education classes participated in **Jump Rope for Heart**.
- Kindergarteners celebrated **100 days of school** with crafts, songs, lots of math, and parent participation.
- Todd held its **Third Annual Multicultural Weekend** featuring music, dancing, and cultural artifacts from countries including Brazil, England, India, China, South Korea, Hungary, Morocco, Columbia Holland, and Puerto Rico.
- Todd Elementary hosted **Kindness Week**.



- Fifth-grader Sasha Plitt and sixth-graders Abby Bell and Abi Chung were named to the 2019 **American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) National Honors Choirs**.
- Poet and author Janet Wong visited students.
- **Video Book Talk Club** members created short films to inspire others to read their favorite books.
- Karla Constantinou's **Treehuggers Club** visited first-graders, teaching them about the environment through a dramatic reading of *The Lorax*.





# Excellence Highlights in the Briarcliff Manor School District

## Athletics

- **Varsity Girls Tennis** - League Champions/Section One Champions.
- **Varsity Boys Soccer League Champions**/Section One Champions/Regional Champions/State Finalists (**Brandon Beck** - Section One Coach of the Year).



- **Varsity Boys Cross Country** - Second Place in Section.
- **Varsity Cross Country Girls** - League Champions/Fourth Place in Section.
- **Varsity Football** - Crown Trophy Bowl Champions.
- **Varsity Girls Soccer** - League Champions (**Owen Scully** - Coach of the Year).
- **Varsity Girls Tennis** - League Champions/Section One Champions.

- **Varsity Girls Basketball** - League Champions/Section One Finalists, **Kacey Hamlin** - All Section/All League/News Scholar 12 Athlete/Con Edison Athlete of the Week/1000th career point/500th career Assist/Lo-Hud Honorable Mention/Isabel Costa All Academic Award; **Alana Lombardi** - All Section/All League/All Time Leading Scorer in Varsity Basketball BHS History/Lo-Hud Honorable Mention; **Maddie Plank** - All Section/All League/News Scholar 12 Athlete/Con Edison Athlete of the Week/1000th career point/Lo-Hud 1st Team; Isabel Costa All Academic Award.
- **Varsity Boys Swimming/Diving** - League Champions/Divisional Champions.
- **Kelly O'Donnell** scored her "100th Career Goal" in Varsity Girls Lacrosse and received the Con Edison Scholar Athlete Award.
- **Sam Kilman** scored her "100th Career Goal" in Varsity Girls Lacrosse.
- **James Pastore** and **Darrien Johnsen** qualified for States in the 200 Medley Relay.



- **Darrien Johnsen** qualified for States in Varsity Boys Swimming/Diving for the 100 Breaststroke!
- The following teams were named **Scholar Athlete Teams** for having an average unweighted GPA of 90 or above: Competitive Cheerleading, Boys Cross Country, Girls Cross Country, Field Hockey, Football, Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer, Girls Swimming/Diving, Girls Tennis, Volleyball; Winter: Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Competitive Cheerleading, Gymnastics, Boys Swimming/Diving, Skiing, Boys Indoor Track, & Girls Indoor Track.





## Budget Questions & Answers

### How does the budget affect voting and the taxpayer?

Because the budget is below the tax levy limit, a simple majority vote of 50 percent plus one is required for it to pass. The tax levy increase associated with next year's budget is 2.69%.

### How does the NYS school tax freeze rebate affect residents this year?

A New York State property tax freeze took effect in the 2014-2015 school year. Since the Board of Education adopted a budget in compliance with the state tax levy cap, all primary residences currently eligible for the state STAR exemption will be eligible for the tax freeze again this year. If your income is \$250,000 or less, you may opt to either receive a rebate check or a property tax credit. If your income is \$500,000 or more, you must switch to the STAR credit program to continue receiving your benefit. For more information, go to <https://www.tax.ny.gov/star/>

### What happens if the budget fails?

Under state law, the Board of Education has three options:

- Propose the same budget to the community for a revote.
- Reduce the budget proposal and present through a revote.
- Adopt a contingency budget that carries a zero percent increase in the tax levy.

In the event of a second failed vote, as per the tax levy cap law, the district would be required to adopt a budget with a zero percent increase on the 2019-2020 tax levy.

### How does this budget support the work and educational initiatives of the district?

This year's budget builds on our distinguished reputation as a high-achieving district. In addition to being the first in Westchester County with fully implemented 1:1 technology, Briarcliff employs innovative practices that differentiate us from neighboring school districts. This budget preserves and enriches essential academic programs at all levels, and maintains all extra-curricular activities and sports programs. Specifically, it maintains all student programs, includes additional high school course offerings, supports the implementation of the Columbia University Teachers' College Writing Program at Todd, increases STEAM integration and Computer Science access and offerings K-12, promotes the social and emotional well-being of students, continues commitment to ongoing professional development, and maintains the Briarcliff Manor Science Research Program. It is our responsibility to provide students with a strong educational foundation and to engage and inspire them to become active, capable adults. The experiences afforded to all Briarcliff students position them well to gain admission to and succeed at prestigious colleges and universities and to become confident participants in the world around them.





**Briarcliff Manor  
Union Free School District  
45 Ingham Road  
Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510  
914.941.8880**

**WWW.BRIARCLIFFSCHOOLS.ORG  
CONNECT WITH US ON FACEBOOK**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
Jennifer Rosen, *President*  
Kenneth Torosian, *Vice President*  
Janie Chamberlain  
Michael Haberman  
Paul Wasserman

**"ENGAGE, INSPIRE AND ACHIEVE"**

To receive updates regarding the budget and other school news, sign up online at  
[www.briarcliffschools.org/community/resident-email-sign-up](http://www.briarcliffschools.org/community/resident-email-sign-up)

## Voter Information

**Voting for the 2019-2020 school district budget and two Board of Education seats will take place on Tuesday, May 21, from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the Todd Elementary School K-2 Cafeteria, 45 Ingham Road, Briarcliff Manor, New York.**



### To vote on May 21, 2019 you must be:

- A United States citizen.
- 18 years of age or older.
- A resident within the district for a period of 30 days immediately prior to the vote.
- A registered voter of the district and/or a registered voter of Westchester County whose name appears on the list supplied by the Westchester County Board of Elections as having voted in a national, state or county election during the past four calendar years.

### Absentee Ballot Information

If you will be out of town or unable to vote in person on May 21, you can apply for an absentee ballot. Applications for absentee ballots are available at the district clerk's office, online on the district's website, [www.briarcliffschools.org](http://www.briarcliffschools.org), or you may call 914-432-8130 to have an application mailed to you. Absentee ballots must be received in the office of the district clerk by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21, 2019.