

# BRENTWOOD BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

BUDGET 2021

## 2021-2022 PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET



In light of the District receiving additional state aid funding, the 2021-2022 budget includes a **0.0% TAX LEVY INCREASE!**

See inside for more information.

May 18, 2021  
**BUDGET VOTE**  
8 AM - 9 PM  
IN-PERSON  
Elementary Schools

This publication is designed to inform residents of the Brentwood School District community of news about your schools. For further information, call 434-2334.

### BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Dear Resident,

The 2020-2021 school year was a year like no other, but once again the spirit and resolve of the Brentwood School District family—the students, teachers, staff and family—persevered. With vaccine distribution ramping up, and infection rates dropping all over the country, there is finally a real light at the end of the tunnel. We will make it to the other side made stronger by the challenges we have overcome together.

In this newsletter, please find the proposed BUFSD budget for the 2021-2022 school year. Along with deciding upon candidates to serve as Trustees on the Board of Education, voters will also be making decisions on our proposition, Proposition #1, the annual school budget. As always, careful consideration was given to fulfilling the mission of educating and empowering the children of our District. With those goals in mind, and while working within our budget constraints, we have proposed Proposition #1 for the voters' consideration. Please take a moment to study the contents of this newsletter and make an informed decision when you fill out your ballots on May 18, 2021, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Sincerely,

***The Brentwood School District Board of Education***

Robert Feliciano, President

G. Paula Moore, First Vice President

Maria Gonzalez-Prescod, Second Vice President

*Trustees:* Julia Burgos • Cynthia Ciferri • Eileen Felix • Simone Holder-Daniel

Superintendent Richard Loeschner

## FREQUENTLY ASKED BUDGET QUESTIONS

### WHAT IS A SCHOOL BUDGET?

A school district's annual budget is the best estimate made by the Board of Education and the administrators of the funds needed to support a quality educational program for the upcoming school year.

### DOES THE DISTRICT INTEND TO EXCEED THE TAX LEVY CAP?

No. Therefore, the budget requires a 50% approval rate in order to be successful.

### HOW WILL THE INCREASE IN STATE AND FEDERAL AID IMPACT THE DISTRICT?

Due to a significant increase in state and federal aids, the District will benefit by restoring student support positions that were recently eliminated and adding positions in the schools and operational areas. In addition, the District will be able to perform much-needed capital projects, such as boiler replacement, ventilation improvements, school renovations and field improvements at minimal cost, if any, for the community.

### ARE THERE ANY MULTIYEAR DEALS IN THE BUDGET?

Yes, the District will look to save taxpayer dollars by entering into multiyear deals in the following areas: copiers, software programs, curriculum items, secure socket layer certificates, hardware items, storage containers and mail machine.

### WHAT IS A CONTINGENCY BUDGET?

A contingency budget is the maximum amount authorized by law that a district can impose on the community if the school budget is voted down. New York State now mandates a limit on the tax levy associated with a contingency budget.

### WHAT ARE THE RESTRICTIONS UNDER A CONTINGENCY BUDGET?

In addition to expenditure caps, the state imposes controls on certain district expenditures, including the elimination of all capital projects and severe restrictions on the use of school facilities by community members. The Board of Education may choose to make reductions or eliminate programs, which could include the summer recreation program, the use of buildings and fields by outside groups, instrumental music and extracurricular activities.

Function	Description	Budget 2020-21	Proposed Budget 2021-22	\$ Change
<b>GENERAL SUPPORT</b>				
1010	Board of Education	\$ 57,290	\$ 57,290	\$ 0
1040	District Clerk	45,833	50,227	4,394
1060	District Meeting	37,627	37,627	0
1240	Chief School Administrator & Staff	553,434	563,453	10,019
1310	Business Administration	1,576,195	1,570,602	-5,593
1320	Auditing	124,000	130,000	6,000
1325	Treasurer	19,577	19,866	289
1345	Purchasing	855,373	903,280	47,907
1380	Fiscal Agent Fees	15,000	15,000	0
1420	Legal Services	410,000	465,000	55,000
1430	Personnel Services	607,135	684,958	77,823
1460	Records Management Officer	128,013	125,956	-2,057
1480	Public Information & Services	110,000	110,000	0
1620	Operations & Maintenance of Plant	23,537,195	23,815,931	278,736
1670	Central Printing & Mailing	865,061	868,247	3,186
1680	Central Data Processing	6,384,871	7,233,861	848,990
1910	Unallocated Insurance	1,142,691	1,177,571	34,880
1981	Administrative Charges - BOCES	1,550,000	1,565,000	15,000
	<b>TOTAL GENERAL SUPPORT</b>	<b>\$ 38,019,295</b>	<b>\$ 39,393,869</b>	<b>\$ 1,374,574</b>
<b>INSTRUCTION</b>				
2010	Curriculum Development & Supervision	2,894,733	3,174,133	279,400
2020	Supervision - Regular School	10,535,597	10,841,547	305,950
2030	Supervision - Special Education	779,259	1,164,493	385,234
2040	Supervision - Other Schools	111,369	114,330	2,961
2050	Continuing Education	1,900	1,900	0
2060	Research, Planning & Evaluation	139,875	152,030	12,155
2070	In-Service Training	51,600	101,600	50,000
2110	Regular Day School	141,347,444	146,703,846	5,356,402
2250	Programs for Handicapped Children	51,418,544	51,971,712	553,168
2255	Services for Pupils with Learning Disabilities	4,315,634	4,011,297	-304,337
2260	Speech Services	3,018,294	3,311,038	292,744
2280	Occupational Education	3,426,335	3,403,108	-23,227
2320	Evening High School	471,166	498,893	27,727
2331	Secondary Summer School	63,150	333,150	270,000
2335	Elementary Enrichment	45,500	45,500	0
2355	Summer Music Inst. Program	5,000	105,000	100,000
2610	School Library & Audiovisual	4,105,040	4,439,987	334,947
2620	Video Studio	10,000	10,000	0
2630	Computer Assisted Instruction	1,065,600	1,078,100	12,500
2805	Attendance	1,599,776	1,728,139	128,363
2810	Guidance	5,229,190	5,148,263	-80,927
2815	Health	2,767,984	3,014,346	246,362
2820	Psychological Services	2,269,647	2,289,527	19,880
2825	Social Work Services	1,031,283	1,016,130	-15,153
2850	Co-Curricular Activities	609,550	609,550	0
2855	Inter-Scholastic Athletics	1,089,129	1,228,769	139,640
	<b>TOTAL INSTRUCTION</b>	<b>\$ 238,402,599</b>	<b>\$ 246,496,388</b>	<b>\$ 8,093,789</b>
<b>PUPIL TRANSPORTATION</b>				
5510	Pupil Transportation	29,394,926	30,090,704	695,778
	<b>TOTAL PUPIL TRANSPORTATION</b>	<b>\$ 29,394,926</b>	<b>\$ 30,090,704</b>	<b>\$ 695,778</b>
<b>UNDISTRIBUTED EXPENSES</b>				
9000	Employee Benefits	106,851,215	110,457,759	-91,330,733
9700	Debt Service	16,196,171	15,520,482	-675,689
9900	Interfund Transfer	1,360,000	12,854,168	11,494,168
	<b>TOTAL UNDISTRIBUTED EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 124,407,386</b>	<b>\$ 138,832,409</b>	<b>\$ 14,425,023</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ 430,224,206</b>	<b>\$ 454,813,370</b>	<b>\$ 24,589,164</b>

# BRENTWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT 2020-2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- Two dozen students from Brentwood High School were recently named finalists in the 2020-2021 Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) regional competition. DECA is an international program designed to prepare emerging leaders and entrepreneurs attending high schools and colleges around the globe for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality and management. The Brentwood chapter is spearheaded by BHS education teacher Avaril McNamara.
- Three student-musicians from Brentwood High School have earned themselves a prestigious seat in the 2020 New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) All-State Ensembles. Congratulations for Wilmer Lopez, symphonic band (trumpet); Tiana Morris, soprano 2 (mixed chorus); and Chloe Portillo, jazz soprano voice (vocal jazz). Such an honor is a testament to their extraordinary talent and proficiency in music.
- Javier Garcia, a student at the Brentwood High School Sonderling Center, recently earned the “Commended Students” designation by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Students who receive this distinction represent a valuable resource in their classrooms and are recognized for their accomplishments and their pivotal role in their school’s academic success.
- Brentwood School District is in the midst of an exciting new project that will provide green, renewable energy for our district for generations. A \$38 million project, which includes LED lighting, window insulation and solar panels, Brentwood’s solar initiative is the largest that NYSED has ever approved. The solar panels will provide 6.5 megawatts, Districtwide, when fully installed, which should be able to support all electric usage in the District. The project, which was approved by SED in the spring of 2020, began last summer at East Middle School. So far, installation is progressing on schedule, with window insulation already complete and solar panel installation moving along nicely. Take a drive by the District; you are sure to be impressed!
- More than 60 Brentwood High School students recently volunteered their time to open up lines of communication among elementary parents, teachers, and the community by serving as volunteer translators, interpreting conversations from English into various languages. During a day of scheduled conferences, BHS students reported in-person to the Translating Command Center, located in the high school, and attended the meetings via Microsoft Teams. Spanish was the number one language needed, based on the number of requests for translators. Requests for other languages included Urdu and French Creole.
- North Middle ENL teacher Allison Lynch was selected as one of 40 recipients in New York to receive the State Farm Teacher Assist program grant. Being the extraordinary individual that she is, Ms. Lynch intends to allocate the funds toward her standing desk project, which will create a more appealing learning environment for her students that emphasizes collaboration and focus.



# BOARD OF EDUCATION NOMINEE BIOS



## JULIA BURGOS

As a current board member, I have pushed to replace social workers, psychology and guidance counselor positions for our students, helped parents access educational services for their children along with successfully helping to restore funds owed to the District. As a proud resident of Brentwood, I will continue to fight to make

sure that our children get what they need to succeed.



## CYNTHIA (CALDERON) CIFERRI

I am currently a schoolboard trustee and a Brentwood homeowner. I have three sons who were educated in Brentwood. I have been an advocate for many students over 25 years. My running mates and I have been instrumental in district improvements, such as Pressbox, districtwide hallway lockers, and the boy's

locker room. We helped our students receive technology during the pandemic. I would love to continue on the BOE. My vision shows how wonderful our schools truly are.



## EILEEN FELIX

I'm a married mother of 4 children, all graduates of Brentwood & a grandchild entering the district. I earned a bachelor's in Legal Studies, worked in finance managing \$8 billion & currently in insurance. I've volunteered with the BYA, Brentwood Residents for Better Schools, Green Machine Parents Association &

Brentwood Puerto Rican Coalition. I've enriched our district by adding AP classes, Senior Walk, Best Buddies Club, I AM Brentwood & the District Breast Cancer Awareness Brunch.



## JOSEPH FRITZ

I have served on the Board. I am a lifelong Brentwood Resident. I am an attorney. I am a Brentwood graduate. I am a lead plaintiff in the lawsuit to oppose the plan to construct 9,000 apartments in Brentwood.



## SMILEY GUIRAND

I am a graduate of Brentwood High School Class of 2000. I am a community organizer and current president of the Brentwood Alumni Student Association. I organize events across Long Island that focus on community empowerment, education, voters' rights, and

social justice. I am a fulltime visual artist with credits in publishing, television, and film. I am looking to benefit the parents and children of this community through education.



## VANESSA LOPEZ

My name is Vanessa Lopez, graduate of Brentwood's class of 1988. My passion for volunteer work started in 1990 as an E.M.T. for Brentwood Ambulance. I also worked as teacher assistant for BUFSD, and served as PTA secretary. After seeing all different perspectives of education, first

as a mother, second as former employee, and finally as educator, I promise to advocate for Brentwood's parents and children. I'm committed wholeheartedly for the Betterment of my community.



## School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2020-21 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2021-22 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2021-22 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 430,224,206	\$ 454,813,370	\$ 441,386,202
Increase/Decrease for the 2021-22 School Year		\$ 24,589,164	\$ 11,161,996
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		5.72 %	2.59 %
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.23%	
A. Proposed Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 111,568,807	\$ 111,568,807	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$	\$	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$	\$	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$	\$	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$ 111,568,807	\$ 111,568,807	\$ 111,568,807
F. Total Permissible Exclusions	\$ 888,066	\$ 651,919	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 112,859,744	\$ 115,543,339	
H. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Excluding</u> Levy to Support Library Debt and/or Permissible Exclusions (E – B – F + D)	\$ 110,680,741	\$ 110,906,888	
I. Difference: G – H (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$ 2,179,003	\$ 4,626,451	
Administrative Component	\$ 43,553,978	\$ 46,262,739	\$ 44,909,739
Program Component	\$ 344,245,912	\$ 354,644,803	\$ 354,894,803
Capital Component	\$ 42,424,316	\$ 53,905,828	\$ 41,581,660

\* Provide a statement of assumptions made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2021-22 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law.

Should the budget be defeated, all equipment and funds for capital projects will be removed from the budget.

\*\* List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)

Description	Amount
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$

NOTE: Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to: [emscmgts@nysed.gov](mailto:emscmgts@nysed.gov)

Under the Budget Proposed  
for the 2021-22 School Year

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

\$ 797.00

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2021-2022 by the qualified voters of the Brentwood School District, Suffolk County, New York, will be held at the following elementary schools: Southeast, Hemlock Park, Laurel Park, Loretta Park, North, Northeast, Oak Park, Pine Park and Southwest on Tuesday, May 18, 2021, between the hours of 8:00am and 9:00pm, prevailing time in the Brentwood School District, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

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